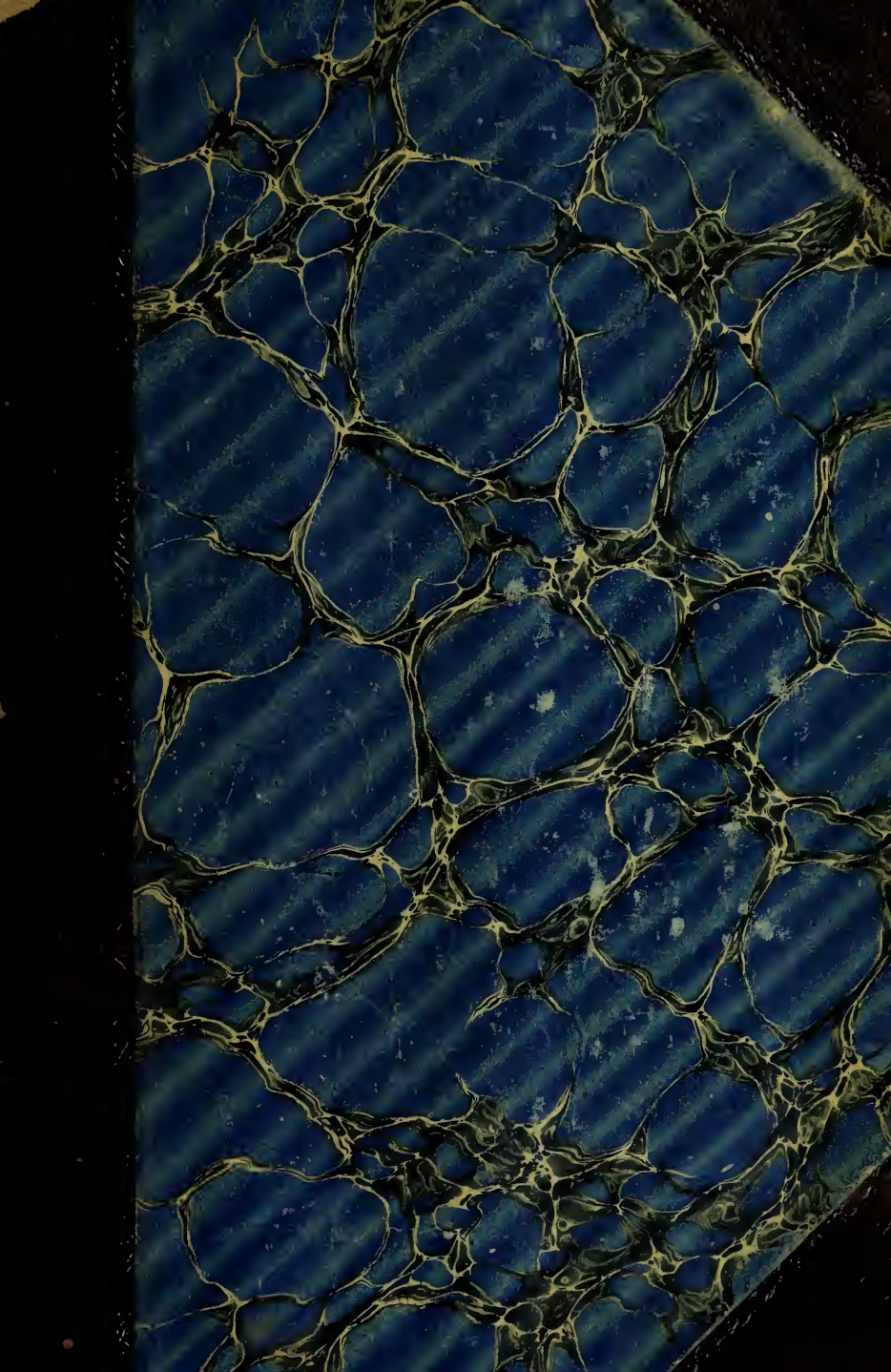






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1893.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER

OF

ROYAL ARCH MASONS

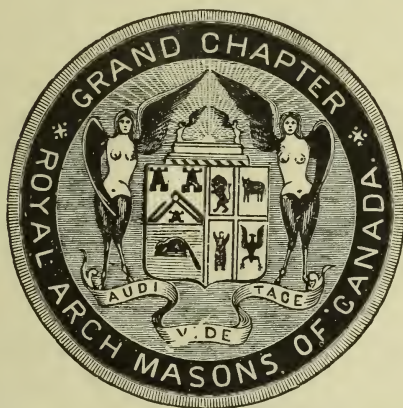
OF CANADA,

AT ITS

Thirty-Sixth Annual Convocation,

HELD IN THE

MASONIC HALL, CITY OF
OTTAWA,



FRIDAY, JULY 21st, A.D. 1893,
A.I. 2423, A.L. 5893.

ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL CHAPTERS AND PRESERVED.

ADDRESS:

J. E. HARDING, Q.C.,
STRATFORD, ONT., *Grand Z.*

THOMAS SARGANT,
TORONTO, ONT., *Grand Scribe E.*

Toronto, Ont. :

HUNTER, ROSE & CO., PRINTERS, 25 WELLINGTON ST. WEST.

1893.

- No. 48. *St. John's, Cobourg.*
R. Ex. Comp. R. J. Craig, P. Z., and Proxy.
No. 52. *Prince Rupert's, Winnipeg.*
M. Ex. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, Proxy.
No. 55. *Niagara, Niagara.*
R. Ex. Comp. J. G. Rousseau, P. Z. and Proxy.
No. 59. *Sussex, Brockville.*
E. Comp. Jas. Quigg, Z.

The Thirty-fifth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, City of Ottawa, on Friday, the 21st day of July, A.D. 1893, A.I. 2423.

PRESENT:

M. E. Comp. J. E. Harding, Q.C.	Grand Z. }	Grand Council
R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson.....	Grand H. }	on
R. E. Comp. M. Walsh	Grand J. }	The Throne.
M. E. Comp. Thomas Sargent	Grand Scribe E.	
R. E. Comp. George J. Bennett.....	as Grand Scribe N.	
R. E. Comp. Robt. J. Craig	Grand Principal Soj.	
R. E. Comp. Hugh Murray.....	Grand Treasurer.	
R. E. Comp. B. Allen.	Grand Registrar.	
E. Comp. A. Morden	as Grand 1st Asst. Soj.	
E. Comp. A. Carruthers	Grand 2nd Asst. Soj.	
E. Comp. H. Walker	Grand Sword Bearer.	
V. E. Comp. Geo. Eakins.....	Grand Master of Veils.	
V. E. Comp. R. D. Hall.....	Grand Standard Bearer.	
R. E. Comp. W. Forbes	Grand Director of Ceremonies.	
V. E. Comp. Wm. Walker	Grand Organist.	
V. E. Comp. N. B. Colcock	Grand Pursuivant.	
V. E. Comp. J. S. Campbell.....	Grand Steward.	
V. E. Comp. Geo. Middleditch	Grand Steward.	
V. E. Comp. L. C. Congdon	Grand Steward.	
V. E. Comp. W. L. Blair.....	Grand Steward.	
Comp. John Sweetman.....	Grand Janitor.	

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp. Robt. M. Stuart.....	St. Clair	District No. 1.
R. E. Comp. John Moodie, Hamilton.....	Hamilton	District No. 5.
R. E. Comp. C. A. Humber, Goderich	Huron	District No. 6.
R. E. Comp. J. G. Rousseau, Niagara.....	Niagara	District No. 7.
R. E. Comp. Wm. Roaf, Toronto.....	Toronto	District No. 8.
R. E. Comp. R. A. Morrow, Peterboro'.....	Ontario	District No. 9.
R. E. Comp. J. Aylesworth, Tamworth.....	Prince Edward	District No. 10.
R. E. Comp. James Reynolds, Brockville	Central	District No. 11.
R. E. Comp. D. Bole, Sault Ste. Marie.....	Algoma	District No. 12.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

M. E. Comp. H. Robertson.....	District of Columbia.
R. E. Comp. D. H. Martyn.....	Indian Territory.
R. E. Comp. G. J. Bennett.....	Iowa.
R. E. Comp. J. E. Harding.....	Massachusetts.
R. E. Comp. D. F. Macwatt	Missouri.
M. E. Comp. D. Spry	New Jersey.
M. E. Comp. H. Robertson.....	Mississippi.
M. E. Comp. H. Robertson.....	New York.
M. E. Comp. Thomas Sargent.....	Kentucky.
M. E. Comp. J. J. Mason	Nevada.
M. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford.....	Georgia.
R. E. Comp. William Forbes.....	Illinois.
R. E. Comp. John M. Gibson.....	Kansas.
R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson.....	Nebraska.
R. E. Comp. John S. Dewar.....	New Hampshire.
M. E. Comp. D. Spry.....	Quebec.
R. E. Comp. A. E. Cooper.....	South Dakota.
R. E. Comp. William Gibson.....	Tennessee.
R. E. Comp. Hugh Murray	Washington.
R. E. Comp. David Taylor.....	West Virginia.
R. E. Comp. A. Patterson.....	Virginia.

- No. 1. *Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui, Kingston.*
R. Ex. Comps. H. J. Wilkinson, A. Shaw, E. Comp. James Adams, Ex. Comp. J. Hewton, J. H. Birkett, P.Z.'s.
- No. 2. *The Hiram, Hamilton.*
E. Comps. Thomas M. Davis, Z ; W. J. Grant, P.Z.
- No. 3. *S'. John's, London.*
R. Ex. Comps. J. S. Dewar, A. E. Cooper, V. Ex. Comp. A. Carruthers, P.Z.'s ; Ex. Comp. W. T. Duff, Z.
- No. 5. *S'. George's, London.*
M. Ex. Comp. R. B. Hungerford ; Ex. Comp. L. W. Burke, P. W. D. Broderick, P.Z.'s.
- No. 6. *St. John's, Hamilton.*
M. E. Comp. J. J. Mason ; R. E. Comps. John Moodie, Wm. Gibson, W. G. Reid, Hugh Murray, J. M. Gibson, P. Z's ; E. Comp. Wm. Birrell, Z ; Comp. Thos. McCallum, H.
- No. 7. *Moirs, Belleville.*
V. Ex. Comp. W. Webstir, P. Z. ; E. Comp. H. Pringle, Z ; E. Comp. W. L. Hamilton, Past H.
- No. 8. *King Solomon's, Toronto.*
M. Ex. Comp. T. Sargant, D. Spry, K. Tully ; R. Ex. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, A. Patterson, E. T. Malone, P. Z.'s.
- No. 15. *Wawanosh, Sarnia.*
R. Ex. Comp. C. Mole, P. Z.
- No. 16. *Carlton, Ottawa.*
R. E. Comp. D. Taylor, Ex. Comps. J. A. Campbell, J. H. Salmon, W. G. S. Reynolds, John Walsh, E. B. Butterworth, W. Hay, W. L. Blair, P. Z's ; E. Comp. W. B. McArthur, Z ; Wm. Smith, H. ; S. A. Luke, J.
- No. 18. *Oxford, Woodstock.*
E. Comp. W. A. Karn, H.
- No. 19. *Mount Moriah, St. Catharines.*
E. Comp. J. S. Campbell, J.
- No. 22. *Grenville, Prescott.*
E. Comp. John Carruthers, P. Z. ; Comp. J. F. Graham, Z.
- No. 23. *Ezra, Simcoe.*
R. Ex. Comp. M. Walsh, Proxy.
- No. 24. *Tecumseh, Stratford.*
M. E. Comp. John E. Hurdling, P. Z. ; E. Comp. F. W. Georing, Z.
- No. 26. *St. Mark's, Trenton.*
V. Ex. Comp. Rev. W. T. Wilkins, P. Z ; Comp. D. J. Walker, Z.
- No. 27. *Manitou, Collingwood.*
M. Ex. Comp. H. Robertson, P. Z. ; E. Comp. W. T. Toner, P. Z., and Proxy.
- No. 29. *McCallum, Dunnville.*
V. Ex. Comp. L. A. Congdon, P. Z., and Proxy.
- No. 30. *Huron, Goderich.*
R. Ex. Comp. C. A. Humber, P. Z.
- No. 31. *Prince Edward, Picton.*
E. Comp. M. R. Alliston, J.
- No. 32. *Waterloo, Galt.*
E. Comp. A. Taylor, P. Z.
- No. 34. *Signet, Barrie.*
M. E. Comp. D. Spry, P. Z. ; R. Ex. Comp. D. F. McWatt, P. Z., and Proxy.
- No. 36. *Corinthian, Peterboro'.*
V. Ex. Comp. R. A. Morrow, P. Z.
- No. 37. *Victoria, Port Hope.*
E. Comp. W. J. Robertson, P. Z. ; J. W. Quinlan, Z.
- No. 40. *Guelph, Guelph.*
R. Ex. Comp. John Scoon, P. Z. ; V. Ex. Comp. Hugh Walker, P. Z ; Comp. R. Mahoney, P. Z. and Proxy.
- No. 41. *Harris, Ingersoll.*
R. Ex. Comp. M. Walsh, P. Z.
- No. 44. *Mount Sinai, Napanee.*
R. Ex. Comp. James Aylesworth, P. Z. ; Comp. T. D. Prulin, J.

- No. 48. *St. John's, Cobourg.*
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- No. 55. *Niagara, Niagara.*
R. Ex. Comp. J. G. Rousseau, P. Z. and Proxy.
- No. 59. *Sussex, Brockville.*
E. Comp. Jas. Quigg, Z.
- No. 60. *Doric, Newmarket.*
E. Comp. H. J. Charles, H.
- No. 62. *York, Eglinton.*
M. Ex. Comp. T. Sargent and D. Spry; R. Ex. Comp. W. Roaf, P. Z. and Proxy.
- No. 63. *Havelock, Kincardine.*
R. Ex. Comp. D. H. Martyn, P. Z.; V. Ex. Comp. R. D. Hall, Z. and P. Z.
- No. 64. *Willson, Welland.*
R. Ex. Comp. J. G. Rousseau, Proxy.
- No. 65. *St. Paul's, Toronto.*
R. Ex. Comp. B. Allan, Wm. Roaf, F. F. Manley, P. Z.'s; Comp. W. G. Eakins, P. Z. and Proxy.
- No. 68. *Maitland, North Augusta.*
E. Comp. John Chapman, Z.
- No. 69. *Grimsby, Grimsby.*
R. Ex. Comps. Wm. Forbes, P. Z.; Wm. Gibson, Z.
- No. 71. *Prince of Wales, Amherstberg.*
V. Ex. Comp. Geo. Middleditch, Proxy.
- No. 73. *Errie, Ridgeway.*
V. Ex. Comp. G. Middleditch, P. Z.
- No. 76. *Mount Nebo, Niagara Falls S.*
R. Ex. Comp. J. G. Rousseau, Proxy.
- No. 77. *Occident, Toronto.*
M. Ex. Comp. T. Sargent, P. Z.
- No. 79. *Orient, Toronto.*
M. Ex. Comp. T. Sargent, P. Z.; E. Comp. J. S. Ballantyne, Z.
- No. 80. *Ark, Windsor.*
E. Comp. William Holdstock, H.
- No. 83. *Ionic, Orangeville.*
M. Ex. Comp. T. Sargent, P. Z.; Comp. Alfred Taylor, Proxy.
- No. 84. *Lebanon, Wingham.*
E. Comp. J. A. Morton, P. Z.
- No. 88. *Macnab's, Dresden.*
R. Ex. Comp. R. M. Stuart, P. Z.
- No. 90. *Golden, Rat Portage.*
R. Ex. Comp. D. Bole, Proxy.
- No. 91. *Antiquity, Toronto.*
M. Ex. Comp. T. Sargent, P. Z.; R. Ex. Comp. G. J. Bennett, P. Z.; V. Ex. Comp. W. Walker, P. Z. and Proxy.
- No. 92. *Spry, Alliston.*
M. Ex. Comp. D. Spry, P. Z.
- No. 95. *Tuscan, Brampton.*
R. Ex. Comp. G. J. Bennett, P. Z.; M. Ex. Comp. T. Sargent, P. Z.
- No. 96. *Australian, Kilwinning.*
M. Ex. Comp. D. Spry, Proxy.
- No. 98. *Vancouver, Vancouver.*
M. Ex. Comp. T. Sargent, Proxy.
- No. 99. *Key Stone, Portage La Prairie.*
R. Ex. Comp. M. Walsh, Proxy.
- No. 100. *St. Lawrence, Brockville.*
R. Ex. Comp. James Reynolds, P. Z.; E. Comp. N. B. Colcock, Z.
- No. 102. *Algonquin, Sault Ste. Marie.*
R. Ex. Comp. D. Bole, P. Z.; E. Comp. W. H. Hearst, Z.; E. Comp. W. J. Bradley, H.
- No. 103. *St. John's, North Bay.*
E. Comps. W. H. Burgess, P. Z.; J. T. Lovell, Z.
- No. 104. *White Oak, Oakville.*
R. Ex. Comp. W. G. Reid, P. Z.
- No. 105. *Signet, Winnipeg.*
R. Ex. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, Proxy.
- No. 106. *Alberta, Calgary.*
M. Ex. Comp. T. Sargent, Proxy.

27 Chapters not represented ; number of votes entitled to be cast, 222.
All of which is fraternally submitted.

W. G. REID, <i>Chairman</i> ,	} Committee.
J. G. ROUSSEAU,	
P. W. D. BRODERICK,	

On motion of R. Ex. Comp. W. G. Reid, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. J. G. Rousseau, the report of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives was received and adopted.

The M. E. Grand Z. granted permission for the admission of all Royal Arch Masons in good standing, during the session of the Grand Chapter, as visitors.

The Grand Scribe E. read the rules and regulations for the government of Grand Chapter during business. The Grand Scribe E. commenced to read the minutes of the proceedings of the Thirty-fifth Annual Convocation, held in the city of London on the 22nd day of July, A.D. 1892, A.I. 2422, when it was moved by R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, seconded by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, and

Resolved, That as the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, held on the 22nd day of July, 1892, have been printed, and copies thereof sent to all the Chapters under this jurisdiction, the recorded minutes be considered as read, and the same be now confirmed.

The M. E. Grand Z. then read the following :—

ADDRESS.

To the Most Excellent, the Grand Chapter of Canada, Greeting :

COMPANIONS OF GRAND CHAPTER,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you at this the 36th Annual Convocation of our Grand Chapter, thankful to the Most High that he has permitted us once again to meet for the purpose of reviewing the transactions of the year that has expired, and to consult together as to what shall be accomplished during the coming year.

NECROLOGY.

We miss from this Convocation the smiling face and hearty hand-grasp of R. A. Comp. John A. Wills, P. G. Principal Sojourner of this Grand Chapter, who was called to rest in the month of June of this year.

Our Sister Grand Chapter of Quebec mourns the loss of two of the members of her Grand Council,—M. E. Comp. Edwin Ruthven Johnson, Past Grand H. and Grand Z. elect of the Grand Chapter of Quebec ; and R. E. Comp. James Fred. Walker, Grand J. of the Grand Chapter of Quebec. Many of the Companions of this Grand Chapter were personally acquainted with our deceased companions, and deeply sympathize with the Grand Chapter of Quebec in its great loss through the death of two such promising and prominent members of their jurisdiction. Immediately on receipt of the notice of the death of our Companions I wrote a letter, a copy of which is annexed to this Address, and on June 23rd I received the answer, also hereto annexed.

Among the number of eminent Companions of the neighboring jurisdiction in the United States, who have been called to their rest, I would specially mention the death of M. E. Comp. Joseph Potts Horner, General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, who died at New Orleans, in the State of Louisiana, on the 24th day of January. We deeply sympathize with the

General Grand Chapter of the United States in the loss of so eminent a Companion. Also M. E. Comp. John H. Hubbs, Grand High Priest and P. G. M. of the State of Nevada, who was a native of Ontario and received his first light in Masonry in Perry Lodge 161, at Perry, Ontario. We sympathise with our Sister Grand Chapter in its great bereavement, and we regret that many of our Sister Grand Chapters have been called upon to mourn the loss of many distinguished Companions.

BY-LAWS.

I revised and approved the By-laws of the following Chapters during the past year, namely, those of:

Vancouver Chapter, No. 98, Vancouver.

Signet Chapter, No. 105, Winnipeg.

White Oak Chapter, No. 104, Oakville.

And I approved of amendments to the By-laws of the following Chapters, namely:

Waterloo Chapter, No. 32, Galt, and

Carleton Chapter, No. 16, Ottawa.

I would recommend Grand Chapter to appoint a committee for the purpose of preparing a set of model By-laws for the different Chapters in our jurisdiction, in order, so far as possible, to systematize the working of the different Chapters.

DISPENSATIONS.

During the year I issued the following dispensations: In accordance with the direction of Grand Chapter, I instructed the Grand Scribe to issue a dispensation to the Companions of Calgary to open a Chapter at that place.

1. To E. Com. N. J. Lindsay, of Alberta Chapter, Calgary, to install the officers of that Chapter after he had himself been installed by the Grand Supt. in Winnipeg, to which city he was obliged to go for the purpose of installation, a distance of 800 miles.

2. To amalgamate Guelph Chapter, No. 40, and Elora Chapter, No. 49.

Four dispensations to wear Masonic clothing.

Fifteen to install officers at other than regular meetings.

Eight to install as Second Principal H., not having served as J.

Three to install as Z., not having served as either H. or J.

One to elect and install.

Two to install as Z., not having served as H.

Two to confer degrees on serving brethren.

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On the second day of August, I appointed M. E. Comp. Rennie, of Lehigh, Indian Territory, as our representative to the Grand Chapter of Indian Territory. I had great pleasure in signing the patent of appointment for our M. E. Comp. Rennie, who is still a member of my own Mother Chapter, Tecumseh, No. 24. I had pleasure in recommending the appointment of R. Ex. Comp. De Witt H. Martyn, of Kincardine, as representative of Indian Territory near this Grand Chapter.

DECISIONS.

During the year very few matters were submitted to me for my ruling.

The first question submitted to me was that of a Companion belonging to two Chapters, one Chapter having suspended him for non-payment of dues, and the other Chapter having elected him to an office. I held that the election was illegal, that his dues must be paid to the Chapter which had suspended him, and a new election be held for the office to which he had been elected.

The next question for my decision was as to whether the officers of a Chapter on its formation required to be installed in full. I held that when the Chapter is instituted the installation must be fully performed.

The next question submitted to me was as to the rank of a First Principal of a Chapter, who had served partly under dispensation and partly under a warrant, but whose term of service did not extend to a full year. I held that he was entitled to his past rank. The matter is not provided for in our Constitution.

RITUAL.

In accordance with the resolution of Grand Chapter, I appointed a Committee on Ritual.

This committee held two meetings and, after very careful consideration, made a number of amendments in the working of the degrees, simplifying and curtailing the amount of work in the several degrees, which cannot fail to be of benefit to the Royal Craft.

The M. E. Comp. J. J. Mason, chairman of the committee, will deal further with the matter in his report to this Grand Chapter.

AMALGAMATION.

On May 12th last, I attended at the City of Guelph, and completed the amalgamation of Guelph Chapter, No. 40, and Elora Chapter, No. 49, at the same time officially visiting Guelph Chapter. The occasion was a very pleasant one, and I have no doubt the amalgamation will result in increased strength and prosperity to Guelph Chapter, No. 40. A number of the Companions of Guelph and Elora Chapters were present, and I recommend that the charter of Elora Chapter, No. 49, after having been cancelled, be returned to Guelph Chapter, No. 40, to be preserved by them as a memento of the occasion.

VISITATIONS.

September 6th, 1892, I visited Tecumseh Chapter, No. 24, Sfratford, officially, and was present at every regular Convocation of the Chapter when in the city.

September 16th, 1892, I visited Malloch Chapter, No. 66, Seaforth, accompanied by the Grand Supt. of the Dist., R. E. Comp. Humber, R. E. Comp. Baker, P. G. Supt. of the Dist., and E. Comp. Sanagan, J. of Tecumseh Chapter, No. 24. This was the occasion of the transfer of that Chapter from Clinton to Seaforth; and I visited it again on October 14th, accompanied by some of the Companions of Tecumseh Chapter, No. 24, for the purpose of assisting in conferring the subordinate degrees on several candidates; and on the 2nd of December I again visited this Chapter, accompanied by R. E. Comp. Humber, Grand Supt. of the Dist., V. E. Comp. Gearing, Z. of Tecumseh Chapter, and E. Comp. Sanagan, J. of Tecumseh Chapter, when the Royal Arch was conferred on three candidates, and the election of officers was held. This was one of the dormant Chapters of Huron District, but I am led to believe that owing to the change and the fact of better business methods being pursued in connection with the working of the

Chapter, that it will now prosper and become a credit to this Grand Chapter.

November 9th, 1892, I visited St. Paul's Chapter, No. 65, Toronto, accompanied by R. E. Comp. Walsh, Grand J. of the Grand Chapter ; M. E. Comp. Sargant, Grand Scribe E., and R. E. Comp. B. Allan, Grand Registrar. This visit was a particularly delightful one to me, owing to the fact that an old personal friend, E. Comp. Shepley, filled the chair of the Chapter as Z., and exemplified the work as I had rarely ever seen it done. Indeed, he and his staff of officers are entitled to every credit for the manner in which they conferred the Royal Arch degree that evening, and St. Paul's Chapter is to be congratulated on its prosperity and the quality and enthusiasm of its members.

November 16th, 1892, I visited St. John's Chapter, No. 6, Hamilton, accompanied by R. E. Comp. Walsh, Grand J. ; M. E. Comp. Sargant, Grand Scribe E. ; R. E. Comp. Allan, Grand Registrar, and R. E. Comp. Moodie, Grand Supt. of Hamilton District, when the veterans of that Chapter worked the Royal Arch degree in a manner to make the younger members of that Chapter look to their laurels. I visited this Chapter again on April 11th, accompanied by R. E. Comps. Walsh, Moodie, Humber, Shaw and Reynolds, when M. E. Comp. J. J. Mason, P. Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter, was presented with a testimonial voted him by this Grand Chapter. R. E. Comp. Murray made the presentation in such a manner as left nothing to be desired.

January 19th, 1893, I visited Havelock Chapter, No. 63, Kincardine, accompanied by R. E. Comp. Humber, Grand Superintendent of Huron District, and R. E. Comp. D. H. Martyn, and met with a most hearty and fraternal welcome, several of the Companions driving long distances through a violent storm to be present and greet the visitors to their Chapter. Mark degree was exemplified in a masterly manner by the officers of the Chapter. Havelock Chapter is the most prosperous in the District.

March 10th, 1893, I officially visited Harris Chapter, Ingersoll, accompanied by R. E. Comp. Walsh, Grand J., and R. E. Comps. Moodie of Hamilton, Christie of Simcoe, Cooper and Burk of London, and a number of prominent Companions. This is the Mother Chapter of R. E. Comp. Walsh, Grand J. of this Grand Chapter, and the manner in which they conferred the Royal Arch degree is a testimony to the fostering care of R. E. Comp. Walsh, and of the diligence and ability of the officers and members of that Chapter, which is certainly one of the best in the jurisdiction.

March 21st, 1893, I visited Huron Chapter, No. 30, Goderich. The Companions of this Chapter had no work to do, but from the opening and closing of their veteran Z., R. E. Comp. Toms, I am quite sure that Huron Chapter is in good hands. I had the pleasure of meeting R. E. Comps. Humber and Lockwood ; the latter has recently become a resident of Goderich and will no doubt prove an acquisition to Huron Chapter.

April 3rd, 1893, I visited Hiram Chapter, No. 2, Hamilton, accompanied by R. E. Comp. Walsh and a number of the officers of Grand Chapter. The Mark degree was exemplified in a masterly manner by the officers of this Chapter, who uphold the credit of Royal Arch Masonry in Hamilton, which has been named the Mecca of Masonry by an enthusiastic Hamilton Companion.

April 24th, 1893, I visited St. John's Chapter, No. 3 and St. George's Chapter, No. 5, London, those two Chapters having united in a recep-

tion to myself and the other officers of Grand Chapter. The Royal Arch degree was conferred by the officers of the two Chapters jointly in faultless manner, and from the fraternal spirit and energy displayed by the officers and Companions of those two Chapters, I anticipate a bright future for Royal Arch Masonry in the Forest City. I was accompanied by M. E. Comp. Hungerford, Past Grand Z., R. E. Comps. Moodie, Cooper, Burk, Smith, Dewar and Broderick, V. E. Comp. Jeffery, and a number of the other officers of Grand Chapter, who were all loud in their praise, not only of the work, the banquet which succeeded it, but most of all the fraternal spirit displayed by these two Chapters. A pleasant incident of the evening was the presentation by myself of the jewel of a Past First Principal to R. E. Comp. P. W. D. Broderick of St. George's Chapter, No. 5, presented to him by the Companions of that Chapter, R. E. Comp. Cooper was Chairman, and E. Comp. McWhinney, Secretary of the Committee of Arrangements, and performed their duty in a satisfactory manner.

May 18th, 1893, I visited Signet Chapter, Barrie, and had the extreme pleasure of witnessing the conferring of the Royal Arch degree on the son of my old friend, M. E. Comp. Spry, the several degrees being conferred upon him by the officers of that Chapter. The Chapter has moved into new premises and will, no doubt, keep up its reputation as a centre of Masonry in the Northern district.

May 29th, 1893, I had the privilege of celebrating the return of my birthday with the Companions of the City of Toronto. I attended a reception tendered to myself and the officers of Grand Chapter by the Companions of different Chapters in the city of Toronto and locality, under the auspices of King Solomon's Chapter, No. 8, Toronto.

I was accompanied by R. E. Comp. Walsh, Grand J., M. E. Comp. Sargant, Grand Scribe E., R. E. Comp. Roaf, Grand Supt. of Toronto District, and other officers of the Grand Chapter resident in Toronto, except R. E. Comp. Robertson, who was unfortunately prevented from being present, owing to his absence in England. The Royal Arch degree was conferred by the officers of King Solomon's Chapter in a very creditable manner, and every officer of Grand Chapter present with me must have been delighted at the cordiality and enthusiasm of their reception by the Toronto Companions. R. E. Comp. Roaf had every reason to be pleased at the successful manner in which the arrangements were carried out. The holding of this reception and reunion by the Companions of the city of Toronto is, in my opinion, a step in the right direction, and one that will tend to increase the good-fellowship and solidarity of Royal Arch Masonry in the city of Toronto and its environs.

CHAPTER OF INSTRUCTION.

On December 16th, 1892, R. E. Comp. Humber, Grand Supt. of the Huron District, held a Chapter of Instruction at Stratford under the auspices of Tecumseh Chapter, No. 24. The Chapter of Instruction was attended by R. E. Comp. Walsh, Grand J., M. E. Comp. Sargant, Grand Scribe E., R. E. Comp. D. H. Martyn, V. E. Comps. Gearing and Ahrens, and a number of the prominent members of the Craft. Owing to an attack of the grippe, I was only able to be present during a part of the forenoon, but I have no doubt that the holding of the Chapter of Instruction was of benefit to the district, and I would recommend to each district in this Jurisdiction to hold at least one Chapter of Instruction during the year, as the holding of such Chapters of Instruction not only improve the working of the different degrees, but the

Companions of each district become acquainted with each other, and in that way strengthen the bonds of Royal Arch Masonry where held.

CONSTITUTION.

I think that clause No. 16, page 16, of our constitution should be amended, providing for some mode of proof of the suspension or expulsion of the Companion by the subordinate body. I also think that an amendment should be made providing for such a case as that referred to in my ruling. I also think that Clause No. 64 should be amended, providing for the election of two auditors for each Chapter as well as the other officers mentioned therein.

AUSTRALIA.

Three applications for dispensations have been received from Australia ; one for a Chapter to be called "Citizens," situate in Melbourne ; another to be called "The Duke of Albany," situate at Prahran ; and another called "United Wimmera," situate at Murton. Those applications appear to be regular, are recommended by the proper officers, and were accompanied by the usual fee, but owing to complications that had arisen during the term of office of my predecessor, I refused to issue the dispensations as asked for, and now refer the whole matter to this Grand Chapter to be dealt with at the present Convocation. It is a matter in which further delay is most undesirable. I think this Grand Chapter has defined its position in the report of the Committee on Warrants made at our Annual convocation in 1888, at pages 166 and 167, and adopted by Grand Chapter, and that whatever be done, the rights and interests of our Companions in that part of the jurisdiction must be protected.

CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY.

I have read the reports of the Grand Supts. of districts, and think that during the last year a distinct advance has been made in placing the Chapters that were weak and dormant in a better position. During the coming year the Chapters will have the advantage of a more simple and shorter ritual, and it might be worthy of the consideration of this Grand Chapter as to whether Lodges of M.M.M. and M.E.M. should not be established at places other than where the Chapter is situate, for the purpose of conferring subordinate degrees and holding quarterly convocations of the Chapter to confer the Royal Arch. I believe that, if this plan were adopted, many of the weaker Chapters would be content with the lodges of the subordinate degrees and be quite willing to come up for the Royal Arch at those quarterly or semi annual convocations of the mother Chapter ; of course, all balloting to be done in the Chapter.

I am, like my predecessor in office, quite satisfied that it would be better for a number of the weak Chapters to amalgamate with the stronger ones in the jurisdiction ; however, that is a matter of some difficulty, and must be left in the hands of the Companions interested.

FINANCES.

Our financial position is a most healthy one :—

The receipts for the year were.....	\$ 2,728 34
The disbursements were.....	2,152 54
The credit balance for the year is.....	\$575 80
We have now debentures amounting to.....	17,000 00
And our balance in Bank of Commerce is.....	3,004 10
Total....	\$20,004 10

And I submit to my Companions that the time has now arrived for them to commence laying up an Endowment Fund for carrying on a home for the aged and distressed Companions of the Royal Craft. So far we have, by the blessing of Divine Providence, been free from any great number of Companions who would require the care and attention that would be given to them by an institution carried on and controlled by the Craft, but as the country gets older, so will the number of homeless and destitute Companions increase.

MOTIONS.

Amendments to the Constitution will be presented for your consideration, and I earnestly recommend the adoption of the amendment proposed by Ex. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, making the minimum fee \$10.00.

GRAND SCRIBE E.

I desire to record my high appreciation of the services of the Grand Scribe E., and the great assistance I received from that experienced and faithful officer during the past year.

In conclusion, I thank my Companions for the hearty support and encouragement which I have had at their hands during the past year, and am grateful to one and all for the many acts of kindness and consideration that I have received from them; and may the Most High prosper my Companions in all their lawful undertakings.

JOHN E. HARDING,
Grand Z.

Ottawa, 21st July, 1893.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, seconded by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, and

Resolved, That the address of the M. E. Grand Z. be referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon during the present Convocation of Grand Chapter.

The following reports of the various Grand Superintendents of Districts were presented:—

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, I have the honor to herewith submit my Annual Report upon the condition of Capitular Masonry in St. Clair District.

WELLINGTON CHAPTER, No. 47, Chatham. Number of members on the roll, 32; meetings held during the year, 7; average attendance, 12; amount of outstanding dues, \$50.00. Assets, \$300.00; liabilities, none. Furniture insured for \$200.00; funds kept in the hands of the Treasurer. Suitable hall, and the books of the Chapter are well kept, and the returns made with regularity to the Grand Chapter Prospects fair. Usually represented in Grand Chapter by R. E. Comp. MacNabb.

PRINCE OF WALES CHAPTER, No. 71, Amherstburg. Number of members, 25; meetings held during the year, 7; average attendance, 9. Outstanding dues, \$25.00. Assets, \$400.00; liabilities, small. Furniture not insured. Inventory of furniture and regalia kept. Has a suitable hall, and the books are in good condition. The field is rather mall, and the prospects fairly good. Represented in Grand Chapters by R. E. Comp. George Gott.

ERIE CHAPTER, No. 73, Ridgetown. This Chapter is located in a handsome hall, well equipped for the work ; but I am afraid they are suffering from the general depression, and have not had as much material to work upon as they would like, during the past year. Number of members, 26. Furniture insured. Funds deposited in a bank in the name of the Treasurer. Inventory of furniture and regalia is kept. Books of the Chapter in good order. Prospects fair, and represented in Grand Chapter last season by V. E. Comp. George Middleditch.

ARK CHAPTER, No. 80, Windsor. This is the largest Chapter in the district. Number of members, 52 ; meetings held, 18—regular, 11—emergent, 7 ; average attendance, 20. Outstanding dues, \$100.00 ; assets, \$300.00. Furniture insured for \$200.00. The hall and requirements for carrying on the work are first-class, and the prospects are good. Unrepresented at last meeting of Grand Chapter.

MACNABB CHAPTER, No. 88, Dresden. Number of members on roll, 19. Amount of outstanding dues, small ; liabilities, none. Furniture and regalia not insured. Assets outside of Chapter furniture and regalia are small, and funds are not deposited in the bank. The hall is suitable for Chapter purposes, and the books of the Chapter are well kept, and the returns made with regularity. The material for work has been very scarce, but as some has been offered, the prospects for the future are brighter. Represented at almost every meeting since organization by the writer.

I had arrangements under way for holding general Chapters of Instruction at Chatham and Windsor during the month of June, but owing to the fever setting me to one side, and my regular work thus getting behind, I had to give up my plans, and reported accordingly to the M. E. the Grand Z.

I regret to say that on the whole the prospects are not as bright as we would desire, owing to the financial depression and lack of enthusiasm on the part of many of the Companions. There are several reasons for the latter. The first, and really the greatest one, in my opinion, is the multiplicity of societies that have been floated during the last few years. The organizers of these societies, by their persuasive pleadings, and giving apparently great returns for small investments, have induced many to become "joiners." When the members are secured in these Orders, self interest leads them on to work for the new, and they thus neglect the older one. While we may not be able to offer any suggestion as to a remedy for the above, there are other reasons why some of our members are not alive to the interests of Capitular Masonry, and to which it would be wise for the rulers of the Craft to give thoughtful consideration. One of these is the time and attention it requires to memorize our ceremonies. Can we not have our ceremonies so shortened without destroying their beauty, that the busy toiler in life's battle can feel that he, too, can with the man who has more leisure while passing along the way, take a share in the work ? I desire before closing to say that while the zeal and assiduity of the Companions is not as largely developed as I should like to see it, there are some very marked exceptions, and I would mention in particular that veteran in the cause, who is ever ready to assist in carrying on the work, R. E. Comp. Thomas C. MacNabb. Peace and harmony prevail.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT M. STUART,
Grand Supt. St. Clair District.

LONDON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

Herewith I beg to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the London District.

Taking the district as a whole, we can well congratulate Grand Chapter on the healthy and progressive condition of Royal Arch Masonry therein. We have slightly increased numerically. Several Chapters show growth by the addition of a good many new members. Others have added only a few, while some have not had any. Growth in the number of members, if they are of good and desirable material, is a very proper mode of determining the progress of any society, yet the fact that some Chapters added only a few, or even none, should not lead us to think that no progress has been made, or that health does not exist in such Chapters, as is the case with some in this district. From a financial point of view, the district has much to be thankful for. All along the line the expenditure has been kept well within the income. Some Chapters do not show as much gain in this respect as others, yet all show some gain. This, I think, is also a proper element in determining the year's work, but is of secondary importance. The most gratifying feature is the *esprit de corps*, which seems to permeate the Companions of the whole district. During my personal intercourse with Chapters assembled, or with individual Companions, and in my correspondence with them, I noticed the greatest enthusiasm for Capitular Masonry, a zeal and desire of the Companions to please and entertain each other, and to advance the Order. It is mainly by this higher standard that I judge the condition of Capitular Masonry in the district, rather than by outward show, such as would make up big annual returns, including meetings held, degrees conferred, number of members, finances, etc.

I am happy to state that the greatest harmony exists among the individual Companions of the various Chapters, and that the Companions have the welfare of the Craft at heart, even though circumstances do not permit them to visit their Chapter even once a year. I would like to see larger numbers of members present at the meetings, and have urged such, but am satisfied that even in the case of Beaver Chapter, No. 74, Strathroy, where no meeting was held during the year, and Bruce, No. 53, Petrolia, where only two meetings were held, that the individual Companions have a love for Capitular Masonry, and the greatest respect for the Grand Chapter, but force of circumstances combine to prevent meetings, and thus delay reports; and while we are sorry to see Chapters practically dormant, yet we must remember they are made up of worthy Companions.

ST. JOHN'S, No. 3, and ST. GEORGE'S, No. 5, London, are both in flourishing condition. They are well officered, and seem to vie with each other in fraternal rivalry in entertaining visiting Companions. I was much pleased with the manner in which both Chapters conferred the degrees. I was particularly pleased to be present at their union meeting, on April 24th, when they received an official visit from the Most Excellent, the Grand Z.

WAWANOSH, No. 15, Sarnia, has had a quiet year. It has not had any work, but the officers hold regular meetings, and are prepared for work which is expected to be done next fall.

BRUCE, No. 53, Petrolia, which has been dormant for some time, has revived. Two meetings were held, and the Chapter promises to again become one of the active and progressive Chapters of the west.

PALESTINE, No. 54, St. Thomas, has had an uneventful year. Regular meetings held, but no work. There are three applications in, however, and the future prospects are bright.

BEAVER, No. 74, Strathroy, is the only Chapter in the district that is dormant. Although I sent several letters of inquiry, I received no reply except from Comp. W. W. Hoare, who writes that they will make a grand rally this fall, and revive the Chapter. I therefore recommend the Grand Chapter to give the Companions another chance to hold the Charter.

MINNEWAWA, No. 78, Park Hill, has revived, and held four meetings, and has added several new members. It is in a fair way to again take its place among the leading Chapters of the district.

AYLMER, No. 81, Aylmer. Last, but not least, this Chapter shows her old-time enthusiasm, and has done good work this year. During one of my official visits, the Royal Arch degree was conferred by Ex. Comp. W. W. Rutherford and his regular officers, in a manner that not only excelled previous efforts, but anything I had seen in the district.

I found the property of the various Chapters insured, the books invariably well kept, the funds in nearly all cases properly paid over to the treasurer, and deposited in the name of the Chapter.

During the year I recommended dispensations as follows : One to instal a Companion as Z., who had not filled the office of H. ; one to instal a Companion as H., who had not acted as J. ; one to instal officers at other than regular meeting ; one to attend Divine service ; and one to exalt a candidate as a serving member.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

N. W. FORD.

Grand Supt. London District.

WILSON DISTRICT.

The Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I send you herewith my report of Wilson District for the year 1892-93. As stated last year by my predecessor, the Chapters, with one exception, have been doing good work for the past year, while the prospects for 1893-94 are very bright. The candidates for Capitular Masonry during the year have been remarkably bright and intelligent brethren. Perhaps the most active Chapter, judging from increase of membership, is Mount Horeb, No. 20. On the occasion of my official visit, I witnessed the conferring of the Mark degree, by Ex-Comp. Passmore and his able officers. It was the first work of the new officers, and was very creditable indeed. In future it is intended that subordinate degrees shall be conferred by H. and J. On the evening of my visit, R. E. Comp. Ashton was presented with an address and a Grand Chapter regalia, as a slight token of appreciation of his services during the past twenty years. The books and documents were neatly kept. The hall, though fairly suitable, is somewhat too small for Chapter work.

OXFORD CHAPTER, No. 18, Woodstock, has not done much work during the year. The members are young and enthusiastic, and after the next election of officers, Oxford Chapter will resume its old place in the front rank.

EZRA CHAPTER, No. 23, Simcoe, has been meeting nearly every month. Its officers are well up in their work, with but one exception. Three new members were added during the year. Thursday, April 20th, will be long remembered in Ezra, it being the evening on which the Companions of St. John's Chapter, No. 6, paid No. 23 a fraternal visit, and conferred the supreme degree of the Holy Royal Arch. The visit was and will be productive of great good; first, from the instruction received by Simcoe Companions, and, secondly, by acquaintance made, and the feelings of good fellowship aroused, which will benefit both visitors and visited.

HARRIS CHAPTER, No. 41, Ingersoll. This Chapter is this year the banner Chapter of the district, though in the near future Brantford will try to wrest the honors from her. I paid my official visit on the evening when the M. E. the Grand Z. was present. The Royal Arch Degree was worked, almost faultlessly. The only thing lacking was music. It is to be hoped that the Chapters, as far as possible, will organize choirs, and that appropriate odes will be sung in the Royal Arch, as in other degrees.

The prospects of the four Chapters for the coming year are excellent. I would suggest, as a means to excite interest and arouse enthusiasm, that the Chapters visit each other more frequently, and confer degrees for each other.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. D. CHRISTIE.
Grand Supt. Wilson District.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals and Officers of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I herewith submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Wellington District, which now contains four Chapters, Elora, No. 49, having amalgamated with Guelph, No. 40, which, I think, was a good move, Elora Chapter being weak and almost dormant.

I had the pleasure of visiting all the Chapters in the district with the exception of Enterprise, No. 67, Harriston, and was kindly received by the Companions everywhere.

I visited Waterloo, No. 33, Galt, on May 9th, where I had the pleasure of seeing two candidates exalted in a very creditable manner considering that the Chapter has not been working for some time. I am of the opinion that Waterloo will pull through all right, as the Companions are making a special effort to revive the Chapter under the guidance of R. E. Comp. Taylor.

I visited Guelph Chapter, No. 40, on May 12th, accompanied by the M. E. the Grand Z., there being no work to present, the only business of the evening of any importance except the consummation of the amalgamation of Elora Chapter, No. 49, with that of Guelph which was happily effected by the M. E. the Grand Z., in person. There was a large attendance of Companions, including R. Ex. Comps. Scoon and Nelles, of Guelph, and R. E. Comp. Savage, of Elora. Although I did not have an opportunity of seeing any work done by Ex. Comp. Mahoney and the officers of Guelph Chapter on my official visit, I have had the pleasure of seeing them in my own Chapter, therefore can vouch for the quality of the work done in Guelph. After the Chapter was closed down the proceedings were commemorated by a banquet.

ENTERPRISE, No. 67, Harriston. I have not received any notice of meetings of this Chapter, consequently could not visit them. I wrote several letters to the Scribe E., and only received one reply. The trouble with this Chapter, so far as I can understand from an individual member, is that it had always been "run" by one member who attended to everything, and as soon as he left the Chapter, the working fell flat and nobody took any further interest in it. Financially, the Chapter is in a good position, having some \$200 in the treasurer's hands, and I am assured that the Companions are going to work up the Chapter again.

IONIC CHAPTER, No. 83. This is my mother Chapter. The Companions hold their meetings regularly and take a great interest in the working. The Scribe E.'s books are faultlessly kept, which goes a long way to make it the successful Chapter it is. They have exalted four Companions during the year, and have two more ready for the supreme degree. Financially, the Chapter is in a good condition, and the prospects are excellent. In closing, I might say that with Enterprise Chapter in working order again, Capitular Masonry in the Wellington District will be once more in a healthy condition.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

JOHN C. FOX,
Grand Supt. Wellington District.

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I herewith submit my annual report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in this district. There are four Chapters, viz. : Hiram Chapter, No. 2, and St. John's, No. 6, in the city of Hamilton; St. Clair Chapter, No. 75, in the town of Milton; and White Oak Chapter, No. 104, in the town of Oakville.

The Hiram Chapter, No. 2, meets in the Masonic Hall, Hamilton, on the first Monday in each month. I visited this Chapter in my official capacity on the 5th of December, 1892. I was right royally received by the Companions and saw the Royal Arch degree exemplified by the officers in a manner which left no doubt of their ability to do ample justice to that supreme degree, after which I presided at the election of officers. Ex. Comp. Davis was elected Z., Ex. Comp. Magness, H.; and Comp. Dr. Emory, J. The average attendance, without visitors, is 26; number of members on the roll, 186. There were 14 convocations held during the year, regular, 12; emergent, 2; degrees conferred, M.M.M., 11; P.M., 11; M.E.M., 11; Royal Arch, 10. I found the S.E.'s books in a condition which reflects great credit on that officer, of which no Chapter has a more efficient S.E. The cash received by him is promptly paid over to the Treasurer. The dues are \$3 per annum, and the amount received during the year was \$239.25; outstanding dues, \$338.75; number of Companions in arrears, one year, 58; two years, 15; three years, 13; suspended for N.P.D., 4; resigned, 4; died, 5; cash on hand and in bank, \$616.71; liabilities, \$75; assets, \$3,903.49. The books are kept in the Masonic Hall vault. The furniture is held jointly by the two Chapters and Godfrey de Bouillon Preceptory, and is insured for \$1,500. I again visited this Chapter on the 2nd January and installed the officers. I was ably assisted by R. E. Comp. Irwin, V. E. Comp. Smith and Ex. Comp. Hutchison. I was also present on the 3rd of April when the M. E. the G. Z. paid his

official visit, accompanied by the following Grand Chapter officers, viz.: R. Ex. Comp. M. W. Walsh, Grand J.; M. Ex. Comp. Sargant, G.S. E.; R. Ex. Comp. Hugh Murray, G. Treas.; R. Ex. Comp. B. Allen, G. Reg. Among those who visited the Chapter fraternally on this occasion were R. Ex. Comp. J. G. Rousseau, G. S. of Niagara District; M. Ex. Comp. J. J. Mason, P.G.Z.; R. Ex. Comps. D. McPhie and J. Malloy, P.G.S.'s; and Ex. Comp. W. Birrell, Z. of St. John's Chapter. Ex. Comp. Davis and officers exemplified the M.M.M. degree in a creditable manner, after which the Comps. retired to the banquet room and entertained their distinguished visitors. The prospects of this Chapter are good. Their representatives at Grand Chapter last year were the Z. and R.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, No. 6, Hamilton.—This is my own Chapter and I have visited it frequently during the year. I paid my official visit on the 8th of December, when the officers exemplified the Royal Arch degree in their usual able manner, after which I presided at the election of officers. The average attendance, without visitors, is 30; number of members on the roll, 240. There were 18 convocations held during the year, regular, 11; emergent, 7; degrees conferred, M.M.M., 20; P.M., 19; M.E.M., 19; R.A., 17. The S.E. of this Chapter is one of the best in the district, his books are well kept. The cash received by him is promptly paid over to the Treasurer. The dues are \$3 per annum, and the amount from all sources was \$794.33; outstanding dues, \$220; number of Companions in arrears, two years, 18; three years, 1; four years, 3; resigned, 4; died, 4; cash on hand and in bank, \$472.19; liabilities, \$27.25; assets, \$4,231.60. The Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter by Z. and J. I again visited this Chapter on the 12th of January, and installed the officers, assisted by V. E. Comp. Smith and Ex. Comp. W. F. Miller. On November 16th the old war horses of the Chapter met and exemplified the Royal Arch degree. R. Ex. Comp. J. W. Murton as Z., R. Ex. Comp. D. McPhie as H., R. Ex. Comp. R. Brierly as J., M. Ex. Comp. J. J. Mason as S.E., R. Ex. Comp. W. G. Reid as S.N., R. Ex. Comp. Wm. Gibson as P.S., R. Ex. Comp. B. E. Charlton as S.S., R. Ex. Comp. J. Malloy as M. of 4th V., Ex. Comp. W. F. Miller as M. of 3rd V., while I acted as M. of the 2nd V. and Ex. Comp. Stark M. of 1st V. There were at this meeting 73 members and 29 visitors, shewing the deep interest taken in meetings such as this one. The Companions were delighted, and in this we have an evidence of the tower of strength the old officers are to a Chapter or lodge, and what good and enthusiastic Masons can do. The M. Ex. the Grand Z. paid his official visit, accompanied by R. Ex. Comp. M. W. Walsh, Grand J.; and R. Ex. Comp. B. Allen, G.R. Among the other distinguished visitors were R. Ex. Comp. J. G. Rousseau, G.S. of Niagara District; R. Ex. Comp. T. McCracken, P.G.J., Toronto; V. Ex. Comps. Looseley and Sweetman, Ex. Comps. W. E. Brown and R. Magness, of Hiram Chapter.

On the 11th of May, R. Ex. Comp. Hugh Murray made a presentation on behalf of Grand Chapter to M. Ex. Comp. J. J. Mason, Past Grand Z., of a gold watch and a Past Grand Z.'s jewel and regalia. Grand Chapter did well in selecting R. E. Comp. Murray to perform this pleasant duty, for no Comp. knows better than he the real worth of the recipient of this handsome testimonial. The M. E. the Grand Z., the R. E. the Grand J., R. Ex. Comp. A. Shaw of Kingston, R. Ex. Comp. Judge Reynolds of Brockville, and R. Ex. Comp. C. A. Humber of Goderich, were present at this meeting and also a number

of Ex. Companions of the city. The prospects of this Chapter are good.

WHITE OAK CHAPTER, No. 104, Oakville.—I paid my official visit to this Chapter on the 3rd of November, 1892. I was accompanied by a number of the Hamilton Companions, and by request of the M.E. the Grand Z. I dedicated and consecrated the Chapter to Royal Arch Masonry. I was ably assisted by M. Ex. Comp. Thomas Sargent, G.S.E. ; R. Ex. Comps. D. McPhie, W. G. Reid and Thomas Irwin, V. Ex. Comp. A. Smith, Ex. Comps. R. A. Hutcheson and Thomas McCallum. Since July, 1892, this Chapter has held 6 regular and 2 emergent meetings ; number of members on the roll, 30 ; deaths, 1 ; degrees conferred, M.M.M., 1 ; P.M., 1 ; M.E.M., 1 ; Royal Arch, 1 ; dues, \$3 per year ; total assets, \$150 ; liabilities, *nil* ; attendance at Convocations, members, 15 ; visitors, 3. The degrees were conferred by the Z. The value of furniture is \$100 and is fully insured. The Chapter was represented at Grand Chapter by Comp. W. E. Brown, J. The officers of this Chapter are capable and expect to give a good account of themselves during the coming year.

ST. CLAIR CHAPTER, No. 75, Milton.—This Chapter meets on the second Wednesday of the month. I paid my official visit on the 28th June. They have held eight regular and four emergent Convocations during the year. These were what might be called Chapters of Instruction, as no degrees were conferred. Number of members on the roll, 17 ; resigned, 1 ; joined, 1 ; cash in bank, \$40. This Chapter is financially sound, and the Companions have promised that they will endeavor to get some new material during the coming year.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

JOHN MOODIE,
Grand Supt. Hamilton District, No. 5.

HURON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers, and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I have the honor to submit my report of the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Huron District. Having been honored by the Companions and Grand Chapter with the responsible position of Grand Superintendent for this district, I entered upon the duties pertaining thereto with a determination to do my duty to the best of my judgment, and as far as lay in my power. It is a pleasing fact to be able to state that six out of the seven Chapters in the district are all in good working order, and some of them have prospects for the future which are, in my opinion, above the average. I may say I have visited every Chapter in the district with the single exception of St. James, No. 46 of St. Mary's, which has been reported as dead for some time, and which I find has ceased to exist. I have written for and requested the surrendering of their warrant, but for some reason or other the few Comps. left seem to cherish it as a relic, and are loath to part with it, but it must be given up and returned to Grand Chapter sooner or later.

TECUMSEH CHAPTER, No. 24, Stratford.—On Dec. 16th last, a Chapter of Instruction for the District was held in the Masonic Hall, Stratford, under the auspices of Tecumseh Chapter, and to do honor to our esteemed Grand Z., M. E. Comp. Jno. E. Harding, it being his mother Chapter. We were honored with the presence of several members of Grand Council, and distinguished Companions, among whom were the M. E. the Grand Z. ; M. E. Comp. T. Sargent, G.S.E. ; R. E. Comp

M. Walsh, Grand J., and others. Proceedings began at 10 a.m., and continued until 7.30 p.m., in the exemplification of all the degrees, and discussing details pertaining to the work, with the view of arriving at a uniformity among the Chapters of the district. At 8 p.m. an emergent meeting of Tecumseh Chapter was held, and the R. A. degree conferred on five candidates, by the First Principal E., Comp. F. W. Gearing, and his efficient staff, after which a reception was tendered to members of Grand Council, Grand Superintendents, and visiting Comps., by Tecumseh Chapter, who entertained the visitors at an excellent spread in one of the leading hotels in the city. Addresses in the interest of the Craft were delivered, which closed a very interesting and profitable day. I issued a dispensation to Tecumseh Chapter, to attend Divine service on June the 25th. Tecumseh will be found to rate as one of the most prosperous Chapters in the district.

HURON CHAPTER, No. 30, Goderich.—This is my mother Chapter, and I have attended most of the meetings held during the year. The officers of this Chapter are well skilled, and fully competent to perform all the duties of their respective offices. The presiding Z. R. E. Comp. I. F. Toms, is quite equal to the requirements of the chair and the Chapter's interest, and, as in the past, will, with the able assistance of his officers, not allow it to decline under his administration. I made my official visit to Huron Chapter on the 21st March, and was honored on the occasion by the presence of our Grand Z., the M. E. Comp. Jno. E. Harding, and am pleased to say the proceedings were most successful and instructive, and were the means of bringing together a large number of R. A. Masons. I heartily thank the Grand Z. for the assistance tendered me on this occasion, in throwing some enthusiasm into the ranks, and increasing our interest for Capitular Masonry. The books of Huron are well kept, but it is unfortunate to find such a large amount of outstanding dues, more so than in any other Chapter in the district. There must be a cause for this, and the remedy should be applied. The prospects of Huron Chapter are good.

HAVELOCK CHAPTER, No. 63, Kincardine.—This is a live and sound Chapter. On the 14th January I visited them, and was accompanied by the Grand Z. There was a large attendance, some of the Comps. travelling a long distance, through the deep snow, to be present, which, to my mind, showed more than ordinary interest on their part. The M. E. M. degree was exemplified by the First Principal E., Comp. R. D. Hall, and his efficient staff of officers, in a most commendable manner. I found the books kept in a very clear and concise manner, more so than ordinarily. E. Comp. J. C. Cook is a painstaking and worthy Scribe E. There is no Chapter in the district better equipped with furniture and paraphernalia, and the arrangements for conferring the degrees are very convenient. Though not having much work during the past year, their prospects are good, having among their members well-trying and worthy Comps. in the persons of R. E. Comp. Dr. Martyn, E. Comp. R. D. Hall, and other Comps., who are interested in the work and welfare of the Craft. Their financial condition is excellent, and prospects for the future fair. The Grand Z. and myself, on our visit, were received and entertained in a most cordial and fraternal manner. After the work of the evening, we repaired to the spacious hall adjoining their Chapter rooms, where a banquet was tendered us, and an enjoyable and interesting time was spent. Addresses were given by the Grand Z. and others, which will, no doubt, result in good, adding, I trust, to their interest and enthusiasm.

THE MALLOCH CHAPTER, No. 66, Seaforth.—Visited this Chapter on Sept. 2nd, on their re-organization. By a unanimous vote of the Comps. at their regular meeting, held in Clinton, July 8th, 1892, it was resolved to remove from Clinton to Seaforth, to which (after learning the circumstances) I gave my consent, and I am of the opinion, from the interest taken and progress made, it was a move in the right direction. On this visit I was accompanied by the Grand Z., M. E. Comp. Jno. E. Harding, and R. E. Comp. I. Baker, my predecessor in office. It was a pleasant and interesting reunion, and some new life was thrown into their midst, which has already shown itself, and no doubt will result in their future good. I again visited them later, and installed the officers. Their prospects are fair, having good material among the Comps., who are sincere and enthusiastic, and will hold its share of interest among the Chapters in the district.

LEBANON CHAPTER, No. 84, Wingham.—I visited this Chapter on March 1st. Had a fair attendance and found the First Principal E., Comp. Williams, and officers in position and ready for the work before them. The R.A. degree was conferred in a very commendable manner. Although the E. Z. complained of his inefficiency in being a very young Comp., and but a few weeks in the chair, and without much practice, but as I intimated that where there was a will there was a way, and I felt sure he would be equal to the confidence the Comps. had reposed in him. There was considerable zeal and enthusiasm among the Comps. I found the books in good order and condition, being admirably kept. Notices sent out promptly, returns made correctly and on time. The E. Comp. J. A. Morton, S. E., being fully up in the work pertaining to the office, I am hopeful for the future of Lebanon Chapter.

EXETER CHAPTER, No. 85, Exeter.—I made my official visit to Exeter Chapter on February 7th. Had a good attendance. There was no work before them, but we had a little talk in the interest of the Chapter and Comps., and Craft generally. They have in the persons of the First Principal E., Comp. M. Ecrett and his officers, Companions capable and willing. Found the books in a satisfactory condition, the furniture and paraphernalia first class and well cared for. Their progress, though not in large additions to their membership, has been steady and decided. The Comps. are enthusiastic, but not too much so, for in my opinion new material should be offering from the large and progressive Blue lodge in their midst. I look for an improvement in this direction, and am hopeful for the future of Exeter Comps. and Chapter. Speaking generally for Capitular Masonry in the district, the future prospects are good and in some instances bright, and I feel confident in stating that as far as my observation has gone, and what I have learned in my intercourse with the Comps. and Chapters of the district, the Craft is entering a new era of prosperity. In conclusion, I beg to thank the Companions of the district for their kindness and courtesy extended to me on the occasion of my visits.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. A. HUMBER,
Grand Supt. Huron District.

NIAGARA DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

I have the honor to herewith submit my annual report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Niagara District (which I endeavor

to do without trespassing too much on your valuable time and the proceedings of Grand Chapter) in as brief and summary a manner as possible. On assuming the duties of this high office, and your having impressed upon me the fact that no official printed report was to be found in the proceedings of Grand Chapter for some years, I felt that it would be in somewhat of a state of lethargy, and that my task would be serious and heavy. I addressed a circular stating my intentions to surely pay each Chapter one if not more visits during my term of office, and by continued correspondence endeavored as far as possible to arouse and stimulate new energy, interest and activity in the work of each individual Chapter.

On visiting, I found my first impression was somewhat correct, but notwithstanding the many trials and vicissitudes that some of the individual Chapters have to contend with, nearly all are alive and some in fairly good condition, with increasing interest being taken in Chapter work.

MOUNT MORIAH CHAPTER, No. 19, St. Catharines.—My visit to this Chapter was very pleasing, not only socially, but to find it splendidly officered and equipped, having for its principals three rising young lawyers, well up in their work, taking earnest active interest in the same, a fully qualified P.S., and the subordinate offices well filled. There was a fair average attendance, and the financial condition of the Chapter good. This is somewhat to be expected, having a large field to draw from as compared with the rural Chapters of the district. The Royal Arch degree was conferred upon one candidate that evening in a creditable manner. From information received, and with the continued activity of the principals, I look for good results next year.

WILSON CHAPTER, No. 64, Welland.—The condition of this Chapter is most gratifying. On the occasion of my visit the Royal Arch degree was conferred upon two candidates in a very efficient manner by E. Comp. W. German, ex-M.P, the present Z, who is taking deep active interest in the work, infusing new young and energetic blood into the chairs and ranks. There was also one affiliation that evening. The books of the Scribe E are in good condition, and the Chapter is well equipped. The future progress of the Chapter is bright looking at the present time.

MCCALLUM CHAPTER, No. 29, Dunnville.—This Chapter is also officered by young, active material, who are taking earnest interest in the good work. I have every hopeful expectation for its future if the same interest continues. It is wanting slightly in equipment, which, I understand, is to be immediately procured. The Royal Arch degree was conferred upon two candidates in a creditable manner, though some of the chairs were filled by other than the proper officers. The Scribe E. informed me they were in good financial condition, insured, had regular meetings with fair average attendance, and that additions would be made to their number during the coming year.

MOUNT NEBO CHAPTER, No. 76, Niagara Falls South.—My visit to this Chapter was rather unexpected by them, and, though they had work to do, the candidates were not on hand. I therefore did not have an opportunity of witnessing their work. The Chapter has a fairly good field to work in, and the Scribe E., whose books are in good shape, informed me they had done the following work during the past year:—Advanced two, received six, exalted seven, has 51 members in good standing, furniture insured, out of debt and \$150 in the treasury.

It was slightly deficient in paraphernalia, but the Companions gave me instructions to procure the same at my early convenience, so that you can see they are taking renewed interest in the work. It is well officered.

NIAGARA, No. 55, Niagara.—This is my own Chapter, and I very much regret to say that owing to long continued and I fear irrecoverable illness the Z. has been unable to attend a meeting of this Chapter. The work has had to be done by myself, assisted by R. E. Comp. Clement. I may also say the source from which we can add to our ranks is very small, only one Blue Lodge with about forty members, of which the Chapter has nearly one-half. They, however, added one during my term of superintendency. The Chapter is fully equipped, out of debt, insured, and over \$100 in the bank. The work of the Companions is improving, though it is difficult to get a good average at a meeting, from the fact that a number follow agricultural pursuits and find it inconvenient to attend, especially during this season of the year. More interest is being taken, and additions will be made this coming year.

KING HIRAM, No. 57, Port Colborne.—I have made every effort to have a meeting of this Chapter, but in vain. I offered to take sufficient Companions from other Chapters to work the degrees, and in that manner endeavor to arouse an interest in the work, but Ex. Comp. J. C. Jordan informed me it was impossible to get a meeting. It is but fair to say that many of the Companions of this Chapter are mariners and away from home seven or eight months of the year. I suggested amalgamation with Willson Chapter of Welland, or a transfer of the warrant to some other part of the district.

GRIMSBY, No. 69, Grimsby.—I was also unable to visit this Chapter. The business pursuits of many of its members takes them away from Grimsby, but with R. E. Comps. Gibson and Forbes at their head I have no doubt it is alive and in good condition.

This, Most Excellent Sir, completes my task. Though the work may not meet your or Grand Chapter's expectations, it was done conscientiously and to the best of my weak ability, and I hope excusable.

J. G. ROUSSEAU,

Grand Supt. Niagara District, No. 7.

TORONTO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I have the honor herewith of submitting my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Toronto District.

I am glad to be able to report that the progress this past year has been very gratifying, most of the Chapters having made additions to their numbers, the Chapters in Toronto, of course, leading in that respect. I am pleased to be able to state that some of the Chapters in the country have taken a forward movement that is encouraging, especially Manitou Chapter, No. 27, and Spry Chapter, No. 92. Some of the Chapters, I regret to say, have reported no work during the past year, I refer to Georgian Chapter, No. 56; Doric Chapter, No. 60; McPherson Chapter, No. 86, and Tuscan, No. 95.

My predecessor, R. E. Comp. George Clarke, in his able report expressed a hope that Seymour Chapter, No. 38, would amalgamate with some other Chapter. As a result of correspondence which I had with

V. Ex. Comp. H. S. Broughton, I am glad to be able to state that nearly all of the members of Seymour Chapter have cast in their lot with Doric Chapter, No. 60, of Newmarket. In view of the fact that the charter, seal, books, furniture, and all the belongings of Seymour Chapter were destroyed by fire, and not having a sufficient number of members unaffiliated to carry on the Chapter, I would recommend that Seymour Chapter, No. 38, be removed from the roll.

When I assumed the office of District Superintendent I proposed holding a Chapter of Instruction, but in view of the fact that the ritual was about being revised, I deemed it unnecessary, leaving it to my successor to hold the same when the new work can be fully and correctly exemplified, as more interest would be taken in such a meeting than with the present ritual.

On the 29th May, 1893, a reception was tendered to Most Excellent Companion J. E. Harding, Grand Z., by the Toronto and suburban Chapters under the auspices of King Solomon's Chapter, No. 8. The gathering was large and enthusiastic, and will, I hope, be of benefit to Capitular Masonry in this district. The R. A. degree was conferred in an able manner by Ex. Comp. S. Brown and his excellent staff of officers. The Grand Z. replied in fitting terms to the welcome extended to him by me on behalf of the large gathering, and expressed his pleasure at the manner in which the degree was conferred. Among those present were R. Ex. Comps. : M. Walsh, Grand J. ; J. Moodie, G. S. of Hamilton District ; J. G. Rousseau, G. S. of Niagara District ; M. E. Comp. T. Sargent, G. S. E. ; M. E. Comp. Kivas Tully, P. G. Z. ; R. E. Comp. Ben. Allen, G. R. ; R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, P. G. P. S. ; R. E. Comp. G. J. Bennett, P. G. S. N. ; V. E. Comp. R. Oliver, G. 2nd Asst. Sojourner, V. E. Comp. R. W. Hull, G. M. of V., together with many others prominent in Royal Arch Masonry. Many regrets were expressed at the absence of R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, G. H. My thanks are due to the Companions of the several Chapters for the way in which they turned out to welcome the Grand Z.

The past year has been an exceedingly pleasant one, so far as any questions of ruling or inquiry are concerned ; nothing having come before me requiring a ruling or investigation.

It has been my privilege to visit all the Chapters in the district except three, viz. : Georgian, No. 56, at Owen Sound ; Doric, No. 60, at Newmarket ; and McPherson, No. 86, at Meaford. I was ready and willing to have visited Georgian and McPherson Chapters, but each time I expressed an intention to visit, I was informed there would be no work to see, and to visit each Chapter, I would lose nearly two days from my office. I did not feel justified in losing my time just to inspect the books of the Scribe E. I am at a loss to understand why so little interest is taken in R. A. Masonry in a flourishing town like Owen Sound, where there are two good Blue lodges. As to McPherson Chapter, No. 86, it seems to have outlived its usefulness, and being situated about midway between Collingwood and Owen Sound, and having only one Blue lodge from which to draw its members, its prospects seem to me not to be very bright. I believe its members to be enthusiastic Masons, but the field is too limited.

Before proceeding to give an account of my visits to the different Chapters, I desire to refer to the notice of motion given by M. E. Comp. D. Spry, and to be considered at the present session of Grand Chapter, regarding the division of this district.—After careful consideration of the matter, and in view of the large extent of territory included in

the district, I believe it would be in the best interests of the Chapters named in the notice of motion, that they should be set apart into a separate district.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

ST. ANDREW'S AND ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, No. 4, Toronto.—I visited this Chapter on the 16th December, 1892, in Masonic Hall, Toronto-street. Was present at the opening of the Council and Chapter, in order to see how the various officers did their work. The election of officers took place at this meeting. The Mark degree was worked by Ex. Comp. S. Love, Third Principal, in a creditable manner. The Scribe E. had his books in excellent order. Ex. Comp. Matthews had a successful year.

On the 19th May, 1893, I again visited this Chapter, accompanied by R. E. Comp. Ben Allen, G. R., and V. E. Comp. R. W. Hull, G. M. of V. The attendance was very good. Saw the opening of the Council and Chapter, and the same was correctly done. The R. A. degree was correctly worked by E. Comp. Cole and his excellent staff of officers. The books of the Scribe E. were models of neatness. The prospects are very good. This Chapter has 96 members on its roll, average attendance, 21; assets, \$993.08; liabilities, *nil*. The number of members in arrears is more than there should be.

KING SOLOMON'S CHAPTER, No. 8, Toronto.—Visited this Chapter on the 7th December, 1892; it being election night, no work was done. Was pleased at the state of Scribe E.'s books. The elections passed off very harmoniously. R. E. Comp. B. Allen, G. R., visited officially, and was tendered a hearty welcome.

As this Chapter, under Ex. Comp. S. Brown and his officers, conferred the Royal Arch degree on the occasion of the visit of the Grand Z., on the 29th May, 1893, I did not deem it necessary to visit it a second time. I know what can be done. The prospects of this Chapter are very good. The year has been a successful one. Membership, 130; average attendance of members, 22; funds deposited in bank in name of Chapter—assets, \$1,607.72; liabilities, none. Dues all paid up.

MANITOU CHAPTER, No. 27.—Meets at Collingwood. Visited this Chapter on the 2nd February, 1893. This was installation night, but owing to the illness of the Ex. Z. elect, and some of the other officers, the ceremony of installation was postponed. The Mark degree was conferred on two candidates, the first time work had been done in over two years. The Companions are of opinion that better times are ahead of the Chapter. The books were neatly kept, and the finances are in good condition; the furniture is insured. I have hopes that this old Chapter will again take its place among the pioneer Chapters for work. Members on roll, 32; average attendance, 12; dues fairly well paid up.

SIGNET CHAPTER, No. 34.—Meets at Barrie. I visited this Chapter on the 11th April, 1893. The attendance was small. As the candidates at the last moment wrote from Bracebridge that they could not get down, no work was done. Saw the opening and closing of the Council and Chapter, and the same was correctly done. In the absence of Ex. Comp. J. C. Morgan, the Ex. Z., the chair was filled by R. Ex. Comp. D. McWatt. The books of the Scribe E. were neatly kept. The roll of members numbers 43; average attendance, 10; dues fairly well paid up. The prospects are fair, and the Chapter is in excellent hands. The Chapter room is one of the best in the district.

SEYMOUR CHAPTER, No. 38.—This Chapter used to meet at Bradford, but owing to fire having destroyed the lodge room, furniture, Charter, and seal, I did not attempt to make a visit. I have dealt with this Chapter in a former part of the report.

GEORGIAN CHAPTER, No. 56.—This Chapter meets at Owen Sound, and for the reasons before given, I did not visit it. This Chapter, from the returns sent to me, does not appear to be in a prosperous condition. The number of members on roll is 34, most of whom are in arrears for dues, 27 being over one year; 20 being over 4 years; and one or more are over 15 years. Only four meetings were held during the year.

DORIC CHAPTER, No. 60.—Meets at Newmarket. I delayed visiting this Chapter till its July meeting, so as to be there when the Ex. Z. was present. I had every arrangement made to visit on the 5th July, but unfortunately missed the train by a few minutes. R. Ex. Comp. B. Allen, G. R., was there and ably filled my place. There was no work done. The opening and closing was done in a correct manner by Ex. Comp. Hollingshead, P. Z., the Ex. Z., owing to a recent bereavement, not desiring to take the chair. This Chapter has not done much work the past year, but its prospects seem to be a little brighter, some applications for degrees having been received at its last meeting. Their numbers were augmented by the affiliation of several members of Seymour Chapter. I am in hopes that an effort will be made by the present staff of officers to get the Chapter into its old time efficiency.

YORK CHAPTER, No. 62, North Toronto.—My first official visit was made to this Chapter on 1st September, 1892, when the Chapter was opened in proper form by Ex. Comp. G. H. Brown and his officers. There was no degree work done, there being no candidate present. The Scribe E.'s books were in good order.

On the 1st of June, 1893, I again visited this Chapter, when the Royal Arch Degree was worked by Ex. Comp. G. H. C. Brooke, and his officers, in an excellent manner. The present Scribe E. keeps a neat set of books. The prospects are good. The Chapter was honored on this occasion by a visit from R. E. Comp. B. Allen, G. R. The number of members on roll is 40; average attendance, 12. Dues are fairly well paid up. Assets, \$200; liabilities, \$60; insurance, \$150.

ST. PAUL'S CHAPTER, No. 65.—Meets at 801 Yonge-st. I visited this Chapter on the 12th October, 1892, when the R. A. degree was worked by Ex. Comp. G. F. Shepley and his staff of officers in a manner which could not be excelled. This Chapter still holds its own as the banner Chapter for work. The attendance was large, and gave a hearty reception to R. E. Comp. B. Allen, G. R., and V. E. Comp. R. W. Hull, G. M. of V., both of whom are honored members of this Chapter. The Scribe E. had all his books present, and the Chapter was congratulated on having such an efficient officer. I visited again on the 10th May, 1893, when the M. M. degree was conferred on two candidates, and the P. M. and M. E. M. degrees were conferred on three candidates. The M. M. degree was worked by Ex. Comp. R. Donald, J., and the P. M. and M. E. M. degrees were worked by Ex. Comp. Aubrey White, H. As was to be expected from officers of this Chapter, the work, both on the floor and ritual, was perfectly and impressively rendered. The books of the present Scribe E. are models of neatness and correctness. The prospects continue to be good. The number of members on roll is 86; average attendance, 19. The following degrees were conferred: 5 R. A., 5 P. M., 5 M. E. M., and 9

M. M. Dues are well paid up. Assets, \$804.90 ; liabilities, *nil* ; insurance, \$250.

OCCIDENT CHAPTER, No. 77.—Meets at Occident Hall, Toronto. Visited this Chapter on the 9th January, 1893. It being the night of installation of officers, no work was done. Saw the opening and closing, which was done in a creditable manner. The Scribe E. had his books in good order. The past year had been a successful one, there having been five candidates admitted up to the time of my visit. I regret that I had no opportunity of paying this Chapter a second visit, but I know it is in good hands under the able management of V. E. Comp. A. G. Horwood. Membership, 78 ; average attendance, 20. Eleven regular communications were held. Dues fairly well paid up. Assets, \$482.13 ; liabilities, none. Insurance, \$150.

ORIENT CHAPTER, No. 79.—This Chapter meets in Orient lodge room, corner of King-street and Bolton-avenue, east of the Don. I visited it on the 22nd December, 1892, accompanied by my Secretary, Ex. Comp. Brooke, and found but a small attendance, considering it was election of officers. The Chapter had not done much work the past year, but the prospects were brighter, there being five candidates waiting for their degrees. Comp. Young, who had occupied the important office of Scribe E. for several years, was to be congratulated on the state of his books.

Visited this Chapter for a second time on the 22nd June, 1893, when I had the pleasure of meeting R. E. Comp. B. Allen, G. R., and V. E. Comp. R. Oliver, G. 2nd Asst. Sojourner. Saw the opening work of the Council and the opening and closing of the Chapter. The work was fairly well done. The Mark degree was conferred and was very well done. The Chapter has been doing well since the beginning of the year. The present Scribe E. keeps his books in good order. Number of members on roll is 57 ; average attendance, 15. There seems to be too many members in arrears for dues. Assets, \$308.53 ; liabilities, \$86.50. Prospects good.

MCPHERSON CHAPTER, No. 86. This Chapter meets at Meaford. For the reasons given in a former part of this report, I did not visit the Chapter. From the return received from the Ex. Z. I find only three meetings have been held during the past year. No degrees were conferred. Number of members on roll, 21 ; average attendance, 11. Assets, \$75 in bank ; No liabilities. Furniture insured for \$300.

ANTIQUITY CHAPTER, No. 91.—Meets in Zeta lodge room, Queen-street west. I visited this Chapter on the 14th March, 1893, accompanied by Ex. Comp. G. H. C. Brooke, District Secretary. Was present at the opening of the Council and Chapter. The work was only fairly done by the different officers. The Mark degree was worked by V. Ex. Comp. William Walker, P. Z., and had the work of the officers been as good as his, I would have been better pleased. I found the Scribe E.'s books in good order and neatly kept. The finances are in good condition. The prospects are good, and if the officers would get up their work in better form I feel that more interest would be taken than at present exists among the members. I am sorry I did not get an opportunity to pay a second visit to this Chapter.

SPRY CHAPTER, No. 92.—This Chapter meets at Alliston. Shortly after I took office I entered into correspondence with Ex. Comp. Wright, regarding the future prospects of this Chapter, and was afraid after reading the report of my predecessor that the outlook was not

very encouraging. I am pleased to be able to report that this Chapter has done credit to the eminent Mason whose name it bears, and has, so far, this year added several new members. The Companions of this Chapter are deeply indebted to the Companions of Signet Chapter, No. 34, who have on several occasions gone to Alliston and worked the degrees on the candidates. On Good Friday, the Companions from Barrie spent the day at Spry Chapter, and conferred the degrees on several brethren. On the occasion of my visit on the 26th May, 1893, I had the pleasure of meeting the Companions from Barrie who had driven over 22 miles to work the degrees. There were two candidates who received all the degrees. The Mark degree was worked by Ex. Comp. Monkman. The P. M. degree was worked by Ex. Comp. Hallett. The M. E. M. degree was worked by Ex. Comp. Wesley, and the Royal Arch degree was worked by R. E. Comp. D. MacWatt, as Z., Ex. Comp. Frazer as H., Ex. Comp. Monkman as J., and E. Comp. Fletcher took the part of P. S. It is not necessary to comment on the excellence of the work, it being all that could be desired. The Companions of Barrie are known for the good work they do in all the degrees of Masonry. I hope to see the work taken up by the Companions of Spry Chapter, as some good material has recently been brought in, and I am sure that Comp. Geo. Chrystal, who has recently gone to reside in the neighborhood, will render them valuable assistance. The Scribe E. requires a new set of books to properly keep a correct record of the work of his office. I congratulate this Chapter on its revival and trust the good work now commenced will continue. Membership numbers 20. Average attendance, 11. Dues well paid up. Value of furniture, \$150. Insured for \$100.

TUSCAN CHAPTER, No. 95.—Visited this Chapter, at Brampton, on the 14th November, accompanied by Ex. Comp. John McCarter. The Chapter was opened and closed by Excellent Comp. W. H. McFadden; the same was correctly and impressively done. There was no work. The books of the Scribe E. were not in a satisfactory state, owing to his having left the country under a cloud. It was feared the Chapter would sustain a loss, but it was not known at the time of my visit what it would amount to. The minute book of the acting Scribe E. was neatly kept. I should like to have visited this Chapter a second time, but could not manage it. The prospects are not very encouraging. The membership numbers 42; average attendance, 12. Only six meetings were held during the past year. Too many members were in arrears for dues. Assets, \$120; liabilities, \$30; value of furniture, \$100. No insurance.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, No. 103.—This Chapter meets at North Bay. Although the youngest in this district, it is one of the most flourishing outside of the city. I received a cordial reception on the occasion of my visit, on 1st October, 1892. The Chapter was opened at 8 p.m., and the regular business being completed, the same was closed, and the P. M. and M. E. M. degrees were conferred on two candidates by the 2nd and 3rd Principals respectively. I found the Companions to be very enthusiastic and willing to work, but owing to the nature of the employment of most of the members, they got no opportunities to meet together for rehearsal, so that the work was not so good as it might have been, but I am in hopes it will soon improve. The books of the Scribe E. are a model of neatness, and the Chapter is fortunate in having so efficient a Scribe E. as Comp. W. T. Plummer. The Chapter has a full set of robes, veils, etc. There being no insurance on these

things, I advised them to have some put on without delay. There was but a slight debt of \$40 on their furniture, which they hoped to wipe out before long. The Chapter has done good work so far, and the prospects are bright. The membership numbers 31; average attendance, 9. Eleven regular meetings have been held. Dues are all paid up. Assets, \$347.70; liabilities, \$60. Furniture values at \$300; insured for \$200.

I desire to take this opportunity to thank the Companions of this large and influential district for the honor conferred upon me last July, in electing me to the important office of District Superintendent, and for the many courtesies which have been extended to me wherever I have visited.

I cannot close this report without referring to the loss Royal Arch Masonry in this district has sustained by the untimely decease of R. E. Comp. J. A. Wills, P. G. P. S., who passed away during last month. He was highly respected for his many genial qualities. His memory will be long respected by those who had the privilege of his acquaintance.

I desire to thank M. E. Comp. T. Sargent, G. S. E., for his valuable advice and assistance, which he rendered most cheerfully on all occasions when requested. I trust that the harmony and good feeling at present existing in this district may long continue.

All of which is respectfully and fraternally submitted.

WILLIAM ROAF,
Grand Supt. Toronto District, No. 8.

ONTARIO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of Grand Chapter, I have the honor to herewith submit my annual report as Grand Superintendent of Ontario District, No. 9.

PENTALPHA CHAPTER, No. 28, meets at Oshawa, but not having received any summons from them during the year, nor any answer to my request for returns, I am unable to report as to its condition.

KEYSTONE CHAPTER, No. 35, Whitby, was visited by me on March 17th, 1893. The attendance was unusually large and the reception tendered me most gratifying. I had the pleasure of witnessing the exemplification of the Royal Arch and Mark degrees, which were both done in a very creditable manner. This Chapter has a membership of 36. During the year 4 M.M.M., 4 P.M., 4 M.E.M., and 1 R.A. degrees were conferred; regular meetings held, 8; emergency, 1; average attendance, 12; members in arrears, 0; amount of insurance, \$200. I found the books neatly and correctly kept by S. E., Joseph King.

CORINTHIAN CHAPTER, No. 36, Peterborough.—This being my mother Chapter I attended nearly every meeting during the past year, and my official visit on 17th of January, 1893, when we had several visitors from a distance, R. E. Companion Lightbourne and E. Companion Hargraft, of St. John's Chapter, Cobourg, being among the number. The officers of this Chapter are well skilled and the excellence of the work done quite up to that of former years. Number of members, 50. During the year 3 M.M.M., 3 P.M., 2 M.E.M., 2 R.A. degrees were conferred; average attendance, 16; number of members in arrears, 19; amount of arrears, \$52; insurance, \$600.

VICTORIA CHAPTER, No. 37, Port Hope, was visited by me on June 8th, 1893. There was a good attendance, and though there was not any work I am satisfied the officers will give a good account of themselves when called upon. Number of degrees conferred, 0; regular meetings held, 4; average attendance, 11; number of members in arrears, 7; amount of arrears, \$48; insurance, \$300.

EXCELSIOR CHAPTER, No. 45, Colborne, has not been visited by me, but from conversations held with Ex. Companion Rutherford, the present Z., this Chapter is in a flourishing condition, several candidates waiting to be admitted. Have written for annual returns, but have not received reply.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, No. 48, Cobourg.—Accompanied by Ex. Companion Wood and Companion Bradburn, of Corinthian Chapter, No 36, Peterborough, I visited the above Chapter on the 30th September, 1892. From the reception tendered me and the kindness shown by all the Companions, and especially from Right Ex. Companion Lightbourn, P.G.S., it will ever remain as the brightest of all my official visits. The Royal Arch degree was exemplified by Ex. Companion Hargraff in a very able manner, and all the officers did their work very creditably. The books are well kept and reflect great credit on R. Ex. Companion R. J. Craig, S.E. Number of degrees conferred, 2 M.M.M.; 2 P.M.; 2 M.E.M.; and 2 R.A.; regular meetings held, 12; average attendance, 12; members in arrears, 0; insurance, \$300.

MIDLAND CHAPTER, No. 94, Lindsay, was visited by me, accompanied by Ex. Companion Wood, of Corinthian Chapter, Peterborough, at their regular convocation on the 16th of February, 1893, but owing to illness of some of the officers we were unable to hold a meeting. The books of Companion G. S. Patrick, the present S.E., are kept in a very creditable manner, and in fact are the best in the district. Degrees conferred, 2 M.M.M.; 1 P.M.; 1 M.E.M.; 1 R.A.; regular meetings held, 5; average attendance, 11; members in arrears, 11; amount of arrears, \$91; insurance, \$150.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. A. MORROW,
Grand Supt. Ontario District.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I have the honor to submit my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in Prince Edward District, No. 10.

There are four Chapters in this district—located at Belleville, Trenton, Picton and Napanee respectively—with a total membership of 231 as per last year's returns, increased this year to 251. Peace and harmony and a hopeful feeling prevail in all the Chapters. Great care is taken not to propose for membership any but desirable and worthy persons. Steady but slow progress is being made, the membership being now 40 more than four years ago, after deducting a loss of 10 by deaths, withdrawals and suspensions for non-payment of dues during that time.

I visited all the Chapters but St. Mark's, which my illness part of the year, and some pressing official engagements, which I dare not neglect, on other occasions, prevented me visiting, but during the year I occasionally met some members of this Chapter, and always heard

from them a good report of the work of their Chapter, and the Scribe E. has also supplied me with gratifying information.

MOIRA CHAPTER, No. 7, Belleville.—On the occasion of my visit to this Chapter I found a large and enthusiastic gathering of the members assembled for the election of officers, which was presided over by V. Ex. Comp. Wm. Webster, who has largely contributed in raising this Chapter to its present state of efficiency. Ex. Comp. Henry Pringle was elected Z.; Ex. Comp. W. N. Ponton, H.; Ex. Comp. R. E. Lazier, J.; and Comp. George Dulmage, Scribe E. With this choice array of principal officers, highly respected by the Companions and influential among the brethren in Craft Masonry in their jurisdiction, continued prosperity is assured to this the largest and most active Chapter in the district. During the year 12 have taken the minor degrees and been exalted. There was also one restoration to good standing, and the Chapter lost one by death. Membership at end of year, 103; increase, 11; 23 meetings were held with an average attendance of 38; there are 27 over one year in arrears for dues. Returns have been made to Grand Chapter to 31st May last, and G.C. fees and dues paid to that date. Value of furniture and paraphernalia, \$900; insured.

ST. MARK'S CHAPTER, No. 26, Trenton.—Ex. Comp. D. J. Walker, Jr., Z.; Ex. Comp. J. S. Dench, H.; Ex. Comp. G. W. Ostrom, J.; and Comp. W. O. Lott, Scribe E. During the year three took the minor degrees and three were exalted. There was one affiliation and two deaths; 35 members at end of year; increase, two; and two standing at M.E.M. degree awaiting exaltation; 12 meetings were held, with an average attendance of 13 members; there are 15 over one year in arrears for dues; total arrears of dues, \$48; returns have been made to Grand Chapter to 31st May last, and G.S. fees and dues paid to that date; value of furniture and paraphernalia, \$400; insured for \$225. Since this Chapter was revived four years ago it has made good progress and bids fair to have a long and successful life.

PRINCE EDWARD CHAPTER, No. 31, Picton.—On the occasion of my visit to this Chapter there was a fair attendance of members, especially of the Past Principals, who take a lively interest in the work and add greatly to the interest of the meetings by regular attendance and securing carefulness in the work. The Royal Arch degree was worked in an admirable manner by the Ex. Z. and his staff of officers, the floor work and the lectures being especially deserving of high praise. Ex. Comp. John Warring, Z.; Ex. Comp. W. Boulter, H.; Ex. Comp. M. R. Allison, J.; and Ex. Comp. Hiram Welbanks, Scribe E. During the year four took the minor degrees and five were exalted; 66 members at end of year; increase, 6; 11 meetings were held during the year. Returns made to Grand Chapter to 31st May last, and G.C. fees and dues paid to that date.

MOUNT SINAI CHAPTER, No. 44, Napanee.—I had the pleasure of installing the officers of this my mother Chapter. Ex. Comp. James Woodhams, Z.; Ex. Comp. W. F. Gerow, H.; Ex. Comp. T. D. Pruyn, J.; and Comp. R. L. Henry, Scribe E. This Chapter is, I think wisely, coming back to the practice of choosing its principal officers from among the Companions residing in or very near Napanee. The practice for a few years past of electing Companions living many miles out of town, to the principal offices, has not worked to the advantage of the Chapter in assuring the presence of a Council to open Chapter at all regular meetings, and the uncertainty has caused a lack of

interest and regular attendance by the Companions generally. A few are faithful, but too many of the Past Principals who live in town have apparently lost interest in the Chapter work and allow Companions to come and go away again too frequently without the Chapter being opened and interest stimulated. Younger members living in town are being brought to the front, which, I think, will soon cause a revival of interest and bring prosperity to this Chapter in the near future. There was one exaltation and two suspensions for non payment of dues this year ; membership 47 at end of year, being a decrease of 1 ; 8 meetings were held with an average attendance of 12 members ; there are 23 over one year in arrears for dues the total arrears being \$108.86, which is altogether too much, and is a dangerous feature in the working of this Chapter, which the officers see and are striving hard to overcome. Returns have been made to Grand Chapter to 31st May last, and G.C. fees and dues paid to that date. Value of furniture and paraphernalia \$500, which is insured for \$300.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAS. AYLSWORTH,
Grand Supt. Prince Edward District.

CENTRAL DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I have the honor to report that as Grand Superintendent of the Central District I visited all the Chapters in my jurisdiction except that at Pembroke ; and there I could not arouse sufficient interest to secure a meeting, notwithstanding my most earnest and persistent efforts to do so. In days gone by Pembroke was always in the "Advance Guard" in the onward march of Masons, both Craft and Capitular, but of late the Companions of the Royal Arch have fallen sadly to the rear. This is very much to be regretted, but I hope and trust that my successor may devise some means to infuse new life and vigor, and that the Pembroke Companions may be induced to rekindle their wonted fire.

I installed the officers of Maitland Chapter at North Augusta and of St. Lawrence at Brockville, and am glad to report they are both making satisfactory progress.

GRANITE CHAPTER, at Almonte, had been for some time quiescent owing to its scattered membership, but I attended the convocation in May last and exalted two Companions.

SUSSEX CHAPTER, at Brockville, is working vigorously.

CARLETON CHAPTER, at Ottawa, is well officered, and has a large, enthusiastic and active membership, ever ready to promote its welfare. The exemplification of degree work was most satisfactory.

ANCIENT FRONTENAC and CATARAQUI CHAPTERS, at Kingston, now united in one, have always been noted for excellent work and for peace and harmony. I attended their convocation last week, and was delighted with the manner in which the degrees of Past Master and Most Excellent Master were conferred.

I regret very much that my judicial engagements prevented my visiting the several Chapters in my district earlier and oftener than I was able to do.

JAMES REYNOLDS,
Grand Supt. Central District

ALGOMA DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I herewith beg leave to submit the first report from Algoma District, No. 12.

There are three Chapters in the district, viz. : Shuniah, No. 83, Port Arthur ; Golden, No. 90, Rat Portage ; and Algonquin, No. 102, Sault Ste. Marie.

I visited Golden Chapter, No. 90, on 13th September and on the 5th inst. Prior to my visit in September no meetings had been held for nearly two years, and the Chapter was in anything but a healthy condition. I installed their officers and started the machinery working again, and am pleased to state I found a marked improvement on my return in July. The Royal Arch degree was conferred by Ex. Comp. Weidman, who, though not perfect in the work, assures me that ere he leaves the chair there will be further improvement. He is ably assisted by his second Principal and Principal Sojourner. Meetings have been held regularly during the year. The Chapter is out of debt and has a small balance on hand. It now remains entirely with the officers and Comps. whether they sink or swim

SHUNIAH, No. 83, Port Arthur.—I visited this Chapter on June 30th. The attendance was not large, but the Chapter is in a healthy condition. Ex. Comp. Jackson, who is the Z.-elect, is making strenuous efforts to retain first place for his Chapter. A portion of the Royal Arch degree was exemplified by him in a very creditable manner. There is a larger amount of arrears for dues on their books than is desirable, but the S.E. assures me that the amount will be greatly lessened before the close of the Masonic year.

ALGONQUIN CHAPTER, though the youngest in the district, is in the most healthy condition. Meetings are held regularly, and the work done would do credit to much older Chapters. Good material is coming in all the time, some six or seven candidates being balloted for at the last Convocation. The First Principal, Ex. Comp. Hearst, has taken considerable pains in drilling his officers and insisting upon their getting up their work. They have a full set of regalia, fully insured, are out of debt and have a balance on hand.

Capitular Masonry in this district is more than holding its own, but larger attendances at the regular convocations is greatly retarded by the long distances many of the Companions have to travel, sixty and seventy and even one hundred miles is not an unusual thing. While making my two official visits it necessitated my travelling three thousand two hundred and eighteen miles by rail and nearly six hundred miles by water, but to lessen the cost of travel by rail the Canadian Pacific Railway has kindly granted us the privilege of going over this portion of their road at a uniform rate of four cents per mile each way, for which we are truly thankful.

In conclusion, I must thank the Companions for their uniform kindness during my visits, and especially the Companions of Golden Chapter, Rat Portage, who were untiring in their efforts to make my stay as pleasant as possible.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. BOLE,
Grand Supt. Algoma District.

MANITOBA DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I have the honor to submit the annual report on the condition of Capitulatory Masonry in Manitoba District. No. 12.

I regret that I have not been able to visit officially all the Chapters in this large district, but my business relations absolutely prevented me from doing so. Speaking generally, as a result of personal visits and conversations with the members of the several Chapters, I am glad to report that Royal Arch Masonry is steadily progressing. Not so many new members have been enrolled during the past year in the Chapters outside Winnipeg, chiefly owing to the dull times, but I am quite satisfied that Royal Arch Masonry has such a hold that as soon as the business of the country is more prosperous it will be readily reflected in an increased membership.

I gave a dispensation to Prince Rupert Chapter and Signet Chapter to wear regalia for Divine service on Sunday, the 25th day of June.

In regard to British Columbia, I beg to submit for your careful consideration the expediency of appointing a District Superintendent for the territory comprised within this Province. I have received a strong communication to this effect from Excellent Comp. C. Z. Perry, Z. of Vancouver Chapter. He calls attention to the drawbacks under which Royal Arch Masonry labors in that Province through not being able to obtain official visits from the representatives of this Grand Chapter. Such visits would do a great deal of good and keep Royal Arch Masonry more up to the mark and infuse more zeal and interest among the Companions. He also points out the fact that there are two other Chapters in the Province, one at Victoria and another at Nanaimo, both hailing from the Grand Chapter of Scotland. There is a probability of another Chapter being started at New Westminster. Excellent Companion Perry advises me that if a District Superintendent were appointed for the District of British Columbia then these other Chapters would, in all probability, affiliate with the Grand Chapter of Canada. Personally, I would recommend the formation of a separate district; I feel sure that it would be in the interests of Royal Arch Masonry for such a step to be taken.

PRINCE RUPERT CHAPTER, No. 52, Winnipeg.—I visited this Chapter on the 5th day of January, 1893, and on the 6th day of June, 1893. On the second occasion I gave a short address on the origin of Royal Arch Masonry. This Chapter maintains its good position. In honor of the twentieth anniversary of the formation of the Chapter a conversazione was held on the 25th day of November, A.D. 1892, which proved a most pleasing re-union of the Companions. I visited officially and explained shortly the objects of our institution. A most enjoyable evening was spent, with songs, recitations and instrumental music. The whole affair reflected great credit on the officers of the Chapter, and a large gathering of some three hundred people left greatly delighted with their evening's amusement. Many ladies were present, and enjoyed themselves so much that they all wished to become Companions, especially the spinsters. These social gatherings are very helpful in developing the educational phase of Masonic life, and I cannot too strongly recommend their adoption by the other Chapters in this district.

VANCOUVER CHAPTER, No. 98, Vancouver.—I am pleased to report

that this Chapter has very much improved since the commencement of the current year. This is best evidenced by the great difference in the amounts now owing for arrears of dues. There was a very large amount at the end of last year, and I wrote to the Z. and called his attention to it, and hoped that a special effort would be made to get these dues collected. The effort was made, and with a gratifying result. I had the pleasure of having a long conversation with Scribe E., and he informs me that during this year several new and energetic members have been obtained, and that the Chapter is now in a prosperous condition, and there are zealous and energetic officers. There is a movement on foot in Vancouver to erect a Masonic Temple, and the Chapter is subscribing ten shares. All wish the undertaking to erect a Masonic Temple in this rising town every possible success. In the construction of the Masonic Temple special provision is to be made for conferring the Royal Arch degree.

KEYSTONE CHAPTER, No. 99, Portage La Prairie.—I visited this Chapter on the 7th day of June last. There was no work, but I had the pleasure of meeting the principal officers and several members and delivered a short address on the "Origin of Royal Arch Masonry." There are no new members this year, but this is owing to quiet times and to the controlling spirits of the Chapter being very careful in their selection of candidates, a course which, I think, cannot be too highly commended. I found the books very carefully kept and the Chapter in a good position. There is a very harmonious spirit existing among the members of this Chapter. It should be pointed out to this Chapter's credit that it has served a very useful purpose in the interests of Masonry. There used to be two lodges in this town with different rituals, one adopting the Canadian ritual and the other the York rite. A good deal of rivalry and bad feeling seemed to be the result of these two institutions working different rituals, a "schism" in a small way. Through the influence of prominent members of the Chapter, and through the Chapter affording a common ground where different members of each lodge could meet, a union of the two lodges was brought about, and now there is one strong lodge working with the utmost harmony.

CORINTHIAN CHAPTER, No. 110, Boissevain.—I had the pleasure of discussing the affairs of this Chapter with Excellent Companion James Rae, and I am glad to report that the Chapter is in a satisfactory state. Slowly but surely it is increasing its membership, and the officers pay careful attention to their work.

ALBERTA CHAPTER, U.D., Calgary.—A dispensation for the institution of this Chapter was granted on the 29th day of July, A.D. 1892, and the same forwarded to me for the purpose of instituting the officers. It was impossible for me to go out to Calgary, and it was not convenient for some time for a member of the proposed Chapter of that town to come to this city. Eventually Excellent Companion Lindsay, the Z. designate, had business calling him to Ottawa, and he stopped over for a couple of days at Winnipeg. I took advantage of the opportunity to instal him at a regular meeting of Signet Chapter, held on the 25th day of January, 1893. I then delivered the dispensation to him and instructed him to institute his officers, delivering to him a dispensation from the Grand Z. for such purpose. This he did in due course. From all I can learn there is great enthusiasm among the members, and I am satisfied that it will become a strong and prosper-

ous Chapter. Great credit is due to the earnestness of Excellent Companion Lindsay for the zeal and interest which he has displayed in connection with the organization of the Chapter. The other Companions who have assisted him are also to be highly commended. I would recommend a charter be granted. Though it has been working only for a short time, yet, I think, it would be helpful to Royal Arch Masonry to grant the charter, thereby recognizing the zeal of the promoters.

SIGNET CHAPTER, No. 105, Winnipeg.—Dispensation was granted to this Chapter during the last year, and at the last meeting of Grand Chapter it was recommended that a charter be granted. The charter was duly forwarded to me, and on the 23rd day of November, A.D. 1892, I had the honor of installing the officers. I took advantage of the opportunity to make a few remarks on the objects of Royal Arch Masonry and to strongly impress upon the Companions the great necessity of being very careful as to the material they selected. On the 5th day of January, 1893, I installed jointly the officers of this Chapter and Prince Rupert Chapter. I visited the Chapter officially again on the 28th day of June, 1893. The Chapter is doing good work and rapidly increasing its membership. Right Excellent Companion Bell was elected Z., and his known energy is sure to further the interest of the Chapter. There is a good staff of officers and they attend very well to their work. At the installation on the 5th of January, 1893, an entirely new set of Principals were installed. The Principals named in the dispensation had not by this date served a year. A question arose as to the rank of these Companions. The Grand Z. has ruled that Ex. Companion Carley, the Z. designate in the dispensation, should have the rank of P.Z., although he had not occupied the chair of Z. for a whole year. A similar question arises as to the rank of H. and J. designate in the dispensation. I would recommend and request a ruling on the point, and if possible an amendment to the constitution covering such a contingency, and providing that such officers should be entitled to rank as having passed their respective chairs.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

THOS. ROBINSON,
Grand Supt. Manitoba District.

AUSTRALIAN DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Principals, Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I have the honor to present my report on the condition of Capitular Masonry in the Australian District.

During the last twelve months there has been a renewed interest shown in Royal Arch Masonry by the Companions of our Chapters. The fresh blood introduced has proven salutary, and, in spite of the financial depression through which this and our sister colonies are passing, I can conscientiously say we are more than holding our own; and if supported by the Grand Chapter we can look forward to undiminished prosperity in the future.

As I mentioned in my letter of 18th February, I have initiated a new departure in calling the Principals and Past Principals of the district together, and laying before them any matter affecting our general welfare. We have now had two of these meetings, and I find I am loyally supported and my action greatly appreciated, so that I intend to con-

tinue these gatherings quarterly till my successor is appointed, and I have no doubt he will do the same. I enclose copy of minutes of proceedings of last meeting, held on 24th ult., in which you will see that I have intimated my intention of retiring from the position of Grand Superintendent, and the representatives unanimously nominated Ex. Comp. Joseph Milton D'Amer Drew, P.Z. to Grand Chapter, as a suitable successor. In supporting this nomination I may state that this Ex. Comp. has acted as my District Scribe, and is thoroughly conversant with the duties of Grand Superintendent, so that the Grand Chapter will have a worthy representative in him.

With reference to Past Grand honors, there has only been one such bestowed on this district, and that Companion has seceded from the Grand Chapter, and as we are a long distance from Canada, it is impossible for any to attend the Annual Convocation, and we therefore hope Grand Chapter and the M. Ex. Grand Z. will remember some of the Principals of this district in the distribution of honors.

I need not say any more about our requirements, as by my last letter Grand Chapter must be fully seized of them, and our Companions are earnestly awaiting their favorable consideration.

Before giving a detailed statement of our Chapters, I must express my thanks for the great assistance and active co-operation rendered me by Ex. Companions E. A. Collins, P. Z., and J. C. Kennedy, P. Z., in furthering our cause and promoting the Royal Craft.

There are now only two Chapters in this district, viz. : Australasian Kilwinning, No. 96, and City of Melbourne, No. 97; the Metropolitan, No. 93, having returned their Warrant, which I forwarded to Grand Scribe E. last March.

AUSTRALASIAN KILWINNING CHAPTER, No. 96.—This Chapter has removed to commodious and suitable rooms at the Excelsior Hall, North Carlton (a suburb of Melbourne). This being my own Chapter I am a regular attendant.

I had the pleasure of installing the three Principals and investing the other officers of the Chapter, on the 6th February of this year, in which ceremony I was ably assisted by P. Z. J. C. Kennedy. The new officers are very enthusiastic, and in order to keep them *au courant* with their work, the Ex. Z. R. Tuffield is holding Chapters of instruction weekly, which are fairly well attended by the members. The Chapter meets on the second Monday of every month. The number of members on the roll is 28, average attendance without visitors is 14. The Ex. Z. has conferred no degrees since his installation, there having been no candidates.

Meetings held since last return, 6; regular, 5; emergent, 1.

The Scribe E.'s books are satisfactorily kept, likewise the Treasurer's. The cash received by Scribe E. is promptly paid over to the Treasurer.

The funds are deposited in the English, Scottish and Australian Chartered Bank, in the official names of Z. and Treasurer. Unfortunately, however, at the present time there is a financial panic in Victoria, and several of the leading banks have suspended payment, among which is this bank. However, the balance there is small. The dues per year are \$5.04. Number of Companions in arrears, over one year, 7; over two years, nil. The longest period any Companion is in arrears is twelve months.

Assets, \$170; liabilities, \$53. Value of furniture, \$480, for which sum it is insured. An inventory is kept outside Chapter room. This Chapter was not represented at last Annual Convocation. I think

that after the crisis is over the Chapter will have a renewed prosperity.

CITY OF MELBOURNE CHAPTER, No. 97.—This Chapter meets at Abbotsford (a suburb of Melbourne).

I visited this Chapter at the installation in November. Every time I have visited it I have found the work was well done, and am well satisfied with the new officers, who are energetic and have our cause well at heart. This Chapter meets on the third Thursday of alternate months. The number of members good on the roll is 75. Average attendance about 50 per cent. The Principals do all their allotted work.

There have been nine Convocations since their last returns to Grand Chapter. I have examined the Scribe E.'s books and they are a model of neatness and correctness, in fact, I have never seen books in a better kept condition.

The cash is promptly paid over to the Treasurer. The funds are deposited in the National Bank of Australasia, which has temporarily suspended payment, so that all the Chapter funds are locked up, and the Scribe E. informs me he will be unable at present to send the Grand Chapter dues. Dues per year, \$2.52. The assets and liabilities have not been reported, so that I am unable to give them.

The Chapter rooms are in every way suitable, having been built for the purpose.

The Chapter was not represented at the last Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter.

As regards the future of this Chapter, there is every prospect of their past success attending them. They have exalted, since their inception, 89 Companions, which includes 30 since last return.

Before concluding I may mention that I have received no acknowledgment of the communication I addressed to the "Grand Scribe E." of the "Grand Chapter of Victoria," in reference to our relations with the said Chapter, copy of which correspondence I enclosed in my last letter.

I now beg to tender my resignation as Grand Superintendent of this district, hoping that my humble services have given satisfaction to Grand Chapter in my endeavor to uphold and forward the interests of Capitular Masonry in this colony, and I have to express my thanks for the hearty co-operation I have at all times received from the past and present Principals and Companions of this district.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

JOSEPH D'AMER DREW,
Grand Supt. Australian District.

61 Park-st W., S. Melbourne,
12th May, 1893.

GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF VERMONT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers, and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The 76th Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Vermont was held in Burlington, Friday, June 16th, 1893, with a full attendance of Grand Officers and Representatives, and a report from every Chapter in the State save one. The prosperity of our Rite in Vermont continues unabated. The financial returns to the Grand Chapter show annually a gratifying increase, and the balance in the treasury at the close of the session was over \$4,000. For the past year,

according to the Grand Secretary's report, the exaltations numbered 136, and the present membership of the twenty-six subordinate Chapters is 2,495, a gain of 72. The session was devoted to the usual routine business, and although various matters of more or less importance came up for consideration, they were mainly of local interest only. M. E. George Wing, of Montpelier, after serving with distinction for two terms as Grand High Priest, relinquished his badge of authority, and M. E. Myson J. Horton, of Poultney, was elected in his place. R. E. Warren G. Reynolds, of Burlington, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

Congratulating you on the prosperous condition of Capitalar Masonry in your jurisdiction, and trusting that your forthcoming session will be one of pleasure and profit to all the Companions in attendance,

I remain, fraternally yours,

CHARLES W. WHITCOMB,

Canada's Grand Representative, near Vermont.

Proctorville, Vermont, July 20th, 1893.

12,	500, expenses moving safe for office....	9 00
" 23,	543, Mrs. Blondheim.....	15 00
1893.		
Jan. 5,	576, Grand Scribe E. salary to date.....	175 00
" 6,	570, Mrs. Waltho.....	15 00
" 7,	575, Comp. Monroe.....	20 00
" 9,	565, Mrs. Blonden.....	15 00
" 9,	566, Mrs. Monroe.....	5 00

CASH STATEMENTS.

M. E. Comp. T. Sargant, Grand Scribe E., submitted his annual cash statement of moneys received during the year, together with the books, etc., and the Grand Treasurer, R. E. Comp. Hugh Murray, submitted his annual statement of receipts and disbursements with vouchers attached.

GRAND SCRIBE E., CASH STATEMENT.

1893.	1893.
June 30, To receipts	Oct. 18, Paid G. Treasurer.....\$200 00
.....\$2,742 74	Nov. 30, " " 24 30
	1893.
	Feb. 9, " " 172 50
	May 9, " " 265 00
	" 31, " " 18 24
	" " " " 101 25
	June 29, " " 930 00
	July 7, " " 267 50
	" 11, " " 692 85
	" 14, " " 71 10
\$2,742 74	\$2,742 74

RECAPITULATION OF RECEIPTS.

Certificates	\$494 00
Dues.....	842 00
Fees.....	325 00
Dispensations.....	72 00
Warrants.....	20 00
Constitutions.....	30 80
Ceremonies.....	103 90
Western Builders' Association.....	202 50
Toronto General Trusts.....	142 50
Landed Banking and Loan Co.....	467 50
Interest on Deposits.....	42 54
	\$2,742 74

ANNUAL STATEMENT, 30th JUNE, 1893.

THOMAS SARGANT, G.S.E., IN ACCOUNT WITH THE GRAND CHAPTER.

No. 1.—Anc't. Front. & Cataragu	\$ 56 80	Brought Forward	\$1043 60
" 2.—The Hiram	57 50	No. 63.—Havelock	8 20
" 3.—St. John's	28 60	" 64.—Willson	37 00
" 4.—St. Andrew and St. John	47 20	" 65.—St. Paul's	42 20
" 5.—St. George	36 90	" 66.—The Malloch	1 00
" 6.—St. John's	91 70	" 68.—Maitland	14 10
" 7.—Moir	57 00	" 69.—Grimsby	5 40
" 8.—King Solomon's	35 50	" 71.—Prince of Wales	12 00
" 15.—Wawanosh	8 40	" 73.—Erie	2 00
" 16.—Carlton	29 60	" 75.—St. Clair	3 90
" 18.—Oxford	9 00	" 76.—Mount Nebo	15 20
" 19.—Mount Moriah	27 00	" 78.—Minnewawa	16 40
" 20.—Mount Horeb	36 20	" 79.—Orient	1 00
" 22.—Grenville	16 00	" 80.—Ark	39 40
" 24.—Tecumseh	31 70	" 82.—Shuniah	12 00
" 26.—St. Mark's	18 00	" 83.—Ionic	32 00
" 27.—Manitou	13 40	" 84.—Lebanon	22 00
" 29.—McCallum	38 00	" 86.—Macpherson	4 00
Scribe E. Murray, the he will be unable at present to send the Grand Chapter dues. Dues per year, \$2.52. The assets and liabilities have not been reported, so that I am unable to give them. The Chapter rooms are in every way suitable, having been built for the purpose. The Chapter was not represented at the last Annual Convocation of			
" 40.—Guelph	41 00	" 98.—Vancouver	42 00
" 41.—Harris	16 80	" 99.—Keystone	10 20
" 44.—Mount Sinai	31 00	" 100.—St. Lawrence	12 90
" 45.—Excelsior	5 00	" 101.—Corinthian	6 80
" 47.—Wellington	17 80	" 102.—Algonquin	41 40
" 48.—St. John's	12 40	" 103.—St. John's	59 00
" 49.—Elora	14 40	" 104.—White Oak	35 50
" 52.—Prince Rupert	70 10	" 105.—Signet	68 60
" 54.—Palestine	19 20	U D.—Alberta	63 00
" 56.—Georgian	8 80	Ceremonies	35 80
" 59.—Sussex	2 00	Bank Interest on Deposits	42 54
" 60.—Doric	4 00	Western Canada Co	202 50
" 61.—Granite	13 00	Toronto General Trusts	142 50
" 62.—York	20 00	Landed Banking and Loan	467 50
\$1,043 60		\$2,742 74	

HUGH MURRAY, GRAND TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH GRAND CHAPTER, R.A.M.

DR.

1892,			
June 30,	To Balance as per statement at this date	\$2,413 90	
Oct. 18,	To Grand Scribe E	200 00	
Nov. 30,	" " interest on Bank Account	24 30	
1893			
Feb. 9,	" " "	172 50	
May 9,	" " "	265 00	
" 31,	" " "	18 24	
" " "	" " "	101 25	
June 29,	" " "	930 00	
July 7,	" " "	267 50	
" 11,	" " "	692 85	
" 14,	" " "	71 10	
		\$5,156 64	

C^d.

1892,			
July 28,	By Order 542, A. McPherson, printing	\$ 29 25	
" 28,	" 541, Grand Scribe E., advance for incidental expenses	50 00	
" 28,	" 539, Grand Janitor Hood, Services	5 00	
" 29,	" 538, W. E. Brown, services during illness of late Scribe E.	75 00	

July 30,	By Order 537, M. E. Comp. J. J. Mason, disbursements 1890-92.....	75 00
Aug. 1,	" 550, Comp. Couper.....	25 00
" 1,	" 549, Mrs. Waltho.....	15 00
" 3,	" 555, Hunter, Rose & Co., proceedings, etc.....	157 56
" 4,	" 546, Mrs. Robert Ramsay.....	15 00
" 9,	" 552, Mrs. Vaux.....	10 00
" 10,	" 529, M. E. Comp. H. Robertson, foreign correspondence..	50 00
" 13,	" 554, Comp. John Monroe.....	20 00
" 16,	" 545, Mrs. J. G. Burns.....	15 00
Sept. 1,	" 544, Mrs. Monroe.....	5 00
" 3,	" 550, Mrs. Bartlett.....	10 00
" 26,	" 558, Rolph, Smith & Co., certificates.....	80 00
" 26,	" 557, The London Printing Co., printing.....	6 00
" 27,	" 556, Grand Scribe E. to refund fee from Australia.....	51 20
Oct. 3,	" 559, Miss E. Shaw, engrossing warrant.....	9 00
" 7,	" 560, Grand Scribe E. salary to date.....	175 00
" 14,	" 548, Mrs. Wallace.....	15 00
" 14,	" 541, Mrs. Piggott.....	10 00
" 14,	" 561, Grand Treasurer's salary to date.....	12 50
Nov. 8,	" 547, Orphans of Malcolm McPhail.....	20 00
" 9,	" 562, Hunter, Rose & Co., proceedings, 1892, etc.....	158 03
Dec. 3,	" 564, R. E. Comp. J. B. Nixon, services.....	16 00
" 12,	" 563, Expenses moving safe for office.....	9 00
" 23,	" 543, Mrs. Blondheim.....	15 00
1893.		
Jan. 5,	" 576, Grand Scribe E. salary to date.....	175 00
" 6,	" 570, Mrs. Waltho.....	15 00
" 7,	" 575, Comp. Monroe.....	20 00
" 9,	" 565, Mrs. Blonden.....	15 00
" 9,	" 566, Mrs. Monroe.....	5 00
" 10,	" 571, Comp. A. Couper.....	25 00
" 12,	" 569, Mrs. Wallace.....	15 00
" 17,	" 574, Mrs. Bartlett.....	10 00
" 18,	" 568, Mrs. R. Ramsay.....	15 00
" 21,	" 573, Mrs. Vaux.....	10 00
Feb. 14,	" 567, Mrs. Burrs.....	15 00
Mar. 1,	" 577, Grand Treasurer's salary to date.....	12 50
" 25,	" 572, Mrs. Piggott.....	10 00
" 25,	" 568, Mrs. McPhail.....	20 00
April 6,	" 578, Grand Scribe E.....	175 00
" 6,	" 579, S. J. Sargent on account presentation to P.G.Z. Mason	20 00
" 12,	" 580, Grand Treasurer.....	12 50
May 3,	" 581, Thos. Lee presentation to P.G.Z. J. J. Mason.....	255 00
June 14,	" 582, Expenses Ritual Committee.....	19 00
July 4,	" 583, Grand Scribe E. salary to date.....	175 00

\$2,152 54

STATEMENT OF ASSETS OF GRAND CHAPTER AT 11TH JULY, 1893.

Debenture Western Canada Loan and Savings Co. at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.....	\$4,500 00
" " Landed Banking and Loan Co. at 5 per cent.....	8,000 00
" " " " " at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.....	1,500 00
Bond, Toronto General Trust Co. at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.....	3,000 00
Cash in Canadian Bank of Commerce.....	3,004 10

\$20,004 10

HUGH MURRAY, *Grand Treasurer.*

CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE,

HAMILTON, 14th July, 1893.

We hereby certify that the above named debentures and bonds are in the custody of this bank for safe keeping on account of Hugh Murray, Grand Treasurer, and that the balance at the credit of the said Hugh Murray, as Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter, on the books of the bank at the close of business at this date is three thousand and four dollars and ten cents (\$3,004.10).

WM. ROBERTS, *Manager.*
W. READ, JR., *Accountant.*

Bond and Debentures.....	\$17,000 00
Cash.....	3,004 10

\$20,004 10

It was moved by R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, seconded by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, and

Resolved, That the annual statement of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer be received and referred to the Executive Committee for audit, and report thereon at the present Convocation.

M. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the report of the Committee, which on motion of R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, seconded by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, was received and ordered to be printed as an appendix to the proceedings.

Letters of regret were read from M. Ex. Comp. R. Hendry, jr., V. G. Z. ; R. Ex. Comp. J. K. Kerr, V. G. H., and R. Ex. Comp. J. D. Christie, G. Supt. of the Wilson District, expressive of their regret at not being able to attend this Convocation of Grand Chapter, and with best wishes for its prosperity and welfare.

An application was presented from Occident Chapter No. 77, Toronto, asking a refund of \$18 claimed to have been paid to Grand Chapter upon Companions who had demitted and neglected by the Scribe E. to make such return. Referred to Finance Committee.

Officials letters were received and read announcing the deaths of the following Companions from sister jurisdictions :—

From the Grand Chapter of Kansas, announcing the death of M. Ex. Comp. George L. Kimball, P.G.H.P.

From the Grand Chapter of Iowa, the death of R. Ex. Comp. H. Wolebin, Past Grand Scribe.

From the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, the death of R. Ex. Comp. Stephen T. Bartlett, P. G. Scribe.

From the Grand Chapter of Nebraska, the death of R. Ex. Comp. Hugh G. Clark, G. Treasurer ; also M. E. Comp. E. A. Allan, P.G.H.P.

From the Grand Chapter of North Dakota, the death of M. Ex. Comp. John Davidson, G.H.P.

From the Grand Chapter of Indiana, the deaths of M. Ex. Comp. Edward S. Ross, G. H. P., and R. Ex. Comp. Lagrange Severance, D.G.H.P.

From the General Grand Chapter of the U.S., the death of M. Ex. Comp. Joseph Potts Horner, Gen. G.H.P.

From the Grand Chapter of Quebec, the deaths of M. Ex. Comp. Edwin Ruthven Johnson, G. Z. Elect, and R. Ex. Comp. James Fred-eric Walker, Grand J.

R. Ex. Comp. D. H. Martyn presented his credentials from the Grand Chapter of Indian Territory, which the M. Ex. Grand Z. was pleased to receive, and accept and the R. Ex. Comp. was received with Masonic honors, which were suitably acknowledged.

The Grand Scribe E. then read a report from Ex. Comp. Charles W. Whitcomb, our Representative near the Grand Chapter of the State of Vermont, when it was moved by R. Ex. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. M. Walsh, and

Resolved, That the report read from our Grand Representative be received and printed in full in our proceedings following the reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts.

The Executive Committee beg leave to report as follows :—

AUDIT AND FINANCE.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The Committee on Audit and Finance beg to report that they have examined the books of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer, to the

30th June, 1893, and find them correct. The receipts and disbursements are as follows:

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand.....	\$2413 90
Certificates.....	494 00
Dues.....	842 00
Fees.....	325 00
Dispensations.....	72 00
Warrants.....	20 00
Constitutions.....	30 80
Ceremonies, &c.....	103 90
Western Canada Loan Co., Interest.....	202 50
Toronto General Trust.....	142 50
Landed Banking and Loan Co. ".....	467 50
Bank deposit.....	42 54
	\$5156 64

DISBURSEMENTS.

Grants for benevolence.....	\$ 350 00
Salary Grand Scribe E.....	700 00
" Treasurer.....	37 50
Expenses 2 years' Grand Z.....	75 00
Foreign Correspondence.....	50 00
Certificates.....	80 00
Return Fee to Australia.....	51 20
Engrossing Warrants.....	9 00
Grant to W. E. Brown for services during late Scribe E.'s illness.....	75 00
Grand Janitor.....	5 00
Incidentals, Grand Scribe E.....	50 00
Expenses re Ceremonies.....	35 00
Moving Safe.....	9 00
Presentation P. Grand Z.....	275 00
Printing.....	35 25
Proceedings 1891.....	157 56
" 1892.....	158 03

	\$2152 54
Balance on hand.....	3004 10
	\$5156 64

ASSETS.

Debentures Western Canada Loan & Saving Co. at $4\frac{1}{2}\%$	\$4500 00
" Landed Banking & Loan Co. at 5%	8000 00
" " " at $4\frac{1}{2}\%$	1500 00
Bond Toronto General Trust Co. at $4\frac{3}{4}\%$	3000 00
Cash deposit in Canadian Bank of Commerce.....	3004 10

Total Assets..... \$20004 10

LIABILITIES.

Hunter, Rose & Co., Sundry Printing.....	\$ 31 65
Free Press, Grand Z. Address.....	18 00
Foreign Correspondence.....	50 00
Expenses, Grand Z., 1893.....	60 00
Advance for Incidentals, Grand Scribe E.....	50 00
	\$209 65

Your Committee desire to state that, while the expenditure has been in excess of former years, such may be accounted for by the following expenses which are not ordinary :

Grant W. E. Brown, services for the late Grand Scribe E.	\$ 75 00
Hunter, Rose & Co., Adjusted Acct., 1891	157 56
Australian Fees refunded	51 20
Presentation, Past Grand Z	275 00
Total	\$558 76

Your Committee recommend that the claim from Occident Chapter R. A. M., No. 77, Toronto, owing to an error of their Scribe E., be not entertained.

Your Committee recommend that when the present contract for Printing the proceedings of the Grand Chapter terminates, this Grand Chapter have such proceedings printed in long primer type, and that such contract be awarded to A. McPherson & Co. of Hamilton, for the ensuing three years, theirs being the lowest tender.

Your Committee further recommend that the application from Melbourne Royal Arch Chapter, No. 97, Melbourne, for 32 certificates to be forwarded them, they guaranteeing the payment for such during month of August next, be granted, and that the Scribe E. forward such at his earliest convenience.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. SHAW,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, seconded by R. E. Comp. A. Shaw, and

Resolved, That the report of the Executive Committee on Audit and Finance be received and adopted.

CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

From a careful perusal of the reports of the officers superintending the fourteen districts embraced within the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter during the past year, your Committee is not profoundly impressed with the devotion or concern which, taken as a whole, characterized the labors of these Companions. The reports tell their own story, and truth compels the admission that it is a cheerless relation. Contrasted with the zeal put into their duties by the District Deputy Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge, the work of the Grand Superintendents, with one or two notable exceptions, is certainly open to criticism. If in some cases their territory is larger, the number of visitations required is comparatively small. It is difficult to understand why a Chapter should be deprived of official inspection simply because a negligent Scribe E. fails to recognize the Superintendent when sending out his notices, and too often the inspecting officer accepts the written assurance of a Chapter officer that a convocation is impracticable when, if he announced his coming and demanded a meeting, the chances are the results would be satisfactory from every point. The Companion who accepts the office of Grand Superintendent knows full well that he is clothing himself with a responsibility which is in no respect less serious than that of D.D.G.M., and yet the latter rarely advances business cares or spells of illness as excuses for omissions of duty. The condi-

tion of the Royal Craft is not such, judging by the reports examined, as to justify the overseers in passing work which has not the mark of zeal and enthusiasm visible upon it, but while defects are apparent in some portions, there is yet discernable a singular form, and even beauty, in others which inspires a feeling of hesitancy ere consigning it to the rubbish.

In some districts it would seem that "the first hour of the first day of the week" had not yet chimed; work in the quarries has not been resumed, and where activity and bustle should proclaim the presence of the zealous Craftsman, dust and neglect mark the location of a work well begun, imperfectly carried on and finally abandoned. Of other sections it may be said that if the enthusiasm is not remarkable yet there is no such falling away of interest and duty as to awaken anxious solicitude. The Chapters seem to be fairly sustained, and are holding their own in numbers and resources. While in a few, and it is a regrettable fact that they are few, there is a constantly replenished fire which maintains a cheerful, healthy glow of encouragement and hope. That there ought to be more interest felt and a higher line of advancement reached, must be evident to all who study the situation. If we desire Capitular Masonry to become a greater power than it now is those who are entrusted with its custody must be more attentive to its needs and more devoted to its interests.

While your Committee deplores the paucity of general information in the majority of the reports furnished, it is a matter for satisfaction that there are a few which redeem the whole from too harsh comment.

THE REPORTS.

There are five Chapters in the St. Clair District, the Superintendent of which leaves it to be assumed that they were visited. His report does not state that they were. He presents a summary of statistical information concerning each, most of which will be embraced in the report of the Grand Chapter proceedings. Unfortunately a period of illness prevented him from carrying out an idea he had conceived of holding a Chapter or two of instruction. He is despondent about the outlook and attributes the blight to financial depression, lack of enthusiasm and the growth of benefit organizations.

The introduction to the report from the London district would lead to the impression that Number 2 at any rate, was to be a brilliant exemplar for the rest of Capitular Masonry in the Province. The Superintendent seems to have paid praiseworthy attention to the duty of inspection, but notwithstanding his experiences, he is optimistic enough, to arrive at the extraordinary conclusion "that Companions have the welfare of the Craft at heart even though circumstances do not permit them to visit their Chapter even once a year," and furthermore, he "is satisfied" that even in the case of Beaver Chapter, No. 74, Strathroy, where no meeting was held during the year and Bruce Chapter, No. 53, Petrolia, where only two convocations were reported, or even Minnewawa Chapter, No. 78, Parkhill, that achieved a record of four meetings, "the individual Companions have a love for Capitular Masonry, and the greatest respect for the Grand Chapter." Absence, we are told, makes the heart grow fonder, and probably the Superintendent discovers in this quality a germ of health and the element of future strength, for his satisfaction is embodied in the statement that, "the most gratifying feature is the *esprit de corps* which seems to permeate the Companions of the whole district," and moreover, "while we are sorry to see Chapters practically dormant, yet we must remember they

are made up of worthy Companions." Such comforting assurances ought to reconcile Grand Chapter to anything short of calamity.

The Superintendent of the Wilson district says in a report distinguishable for terseness and brevity, that three out of the four chapters in his charge are doing well and that there is a hope of even better things.

The Superintendent of the Wellington district reports favourably of the four Chapters he was called upon to inspect, and apparently did his duty by them.

An instructive and entertaining report is furnished by the Superintendent of the Hamilton district, which has always been distinguished for good workers. Four Chapters are included in his jurisdiction, and all are more or less active and progressive.

Six of the seven Chapters in the Huron district are working. The Superintendent displayed an earnestness which might well be emulated. His report is newsy and interesting. He appears to be the only inspecting officer who has held a General Chapter of Instruction.

After a period of rest the Niagara district is heard from this year, but although the Superintendent seems to have labored earnestly, his narrative is not calculated to create much elation. The report would indicate that his good work so well begun might well be continued.

Toronto district, the largest in point of numbers in the jurisdiction, has been superintended with characteristic care by a painstaking Companion. His report is lengthy, and gives an accurate conception of the condition of affairs in the Chapters inspected. Taking it on the whole, his observations go to show that the Royal Craft has not made the advance that it ought to have done and support the contention that the contemplated division of the district would be beneficial. There are now sixteen Chapters to look after, and the territory is extensive.

Another careful report, though not so exhaustive, is that from the Ontario district where the Superintendent visited six out of the seven Chapters, all of which he states are doing well.

"Steady but slow," is the view taken of the progress of the Chapters in the Prince Edward district by the Superintendent who succeeded in visiting three out of the four. The one not honored with his presence, he states, is doing good work. A revival in another he attributes to the good sense of the Companions in selecting only local men for officers.

Brevity and a hopeful tone distinguishes the report from the Central district. The Superintendent speaks favorably of the working in the seven chapters he visited, and despondly of that in Pembroke, which notwithstanding persistent efforts, by mail, failed to convene for him.

The report from Algoma district deserves special mention from the fact that it is a tribute to the earnestness of the Superintendent and of the good results therefrom. To visit twice the three Chapters in his district, that officer travelled nearly four thousand miles, needless to say at his own expense, and he apparently imparted to the Companions a portion of the zeal with which he was charged, for he records the pleasing fact that Golden Chapter at Rat Portage, which was dead for two years is, by his assistance, again in running order, and holding meetings with old time regularity. He reports a healthy condition of affairs at Port Arthur while "Algonquin," the baby Chapter, is crowing lustily and with a lung power that presages an early muscular development. Companions who can willingly journey from fifty to a hundred miles, as he reports, to attend their Chapter display an

affection for the Craft which is in striking contrast to the love which another Superintending officer extols elsewhere.

Manitoba is a district of magnificent distances and a Superintendent who fails to cover his charge completely is entitled to some latitude. A trip from Winnipeg to Vancouver, for instance, would be an illustration of remarkable zeal in an inspecting officer. Yet in the latter place the Companions, we are told, are prospering, so much so that the report urges a separate district in order to encourage the signs of expansion. The new Chapter at Boissevain was not visited, but he hears it is doing well, and reports similarly of the Chapter under dispensation at Calgary, which from information received, he believes should receive its charter. He reports well of the Chapters at Winnipeg and elsewhere.

From our Companions at the antipodes, we hear tidings of progress under difficulties. R. Ex. Companion D'Amer Drew's report is one that appeals to our sympathies and deserves our consideration. The propriety of the existence of these Chapters under the *ægis* of this grand body enters not into the discussion. They are a substantial fact and their efforts to be worthy of the confidence placed in them demand our heartiest appreciation. The pioneer Chapter owing allegiance to Canada, viz.: "Metropolitan," No. 93, has collapsed, its members seceding to the so called Victoria Grand Chapter. The remaining Chapters "Australasian Kilwinning" and "City of Melbourne" are reported as doing fairly with a membership of 28 and 75 respectively. The recent financial crisis has involved both of these Chapters; their funds being deposited in banks that were affected by the panic and suspended. With the opposition of the Chapters working under the local and other grand bodies our Companions of Melbourne have an uphill task to face, and the appeal of the Grand Superintendent for official recognition can be readily understood.

CHAPTER OFFICERS.

Where the Superintendents comment upon the work, they invariably praise in a general way without furnishing information as to the qualifications of the several officers. One swallow does not make a summer, neither should an efficient first Principal bear the sole weight of responsibility. Lack of enthusiasm on the part of the Companions is largely attributable to laxity in the working of the subordinates officers and results in a carelessness that becomes epidemic. Where statistics are furnished, the painful fact is made clear that the attendance is sadly disproportionate to the membership, and in many instances is barely above the necessary quorum. In former years causes have been assigned and remedial measures suggested, some of which are being acted upon and may be productive of good, but there is much food for thought in the idea brought out prominently in the report from Hamilton, that continued activity in those who have enjoyed Chapter honors in the past is essential to fostering and retaining an energetic spirit in the younger Companions. When the latter are permitted to observe and reflect upon the affection which the veterans display for the Royal Craft, an emulatory disposition is created which invariably proves lasting. The ritual is given with all the beauty of detail and the desire to imitate is there given birth.

CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

It is to be regretted that the holding of general Chapters of Instruction has received little or no consideration this year. The Superin-

tendent of the Huron District is the only officer who reports an observance of this necessary duty. A possible revision of the ritual is given in one case as a ground for the omission, while illness is submitted in another, and, for reasons best known to themselves, the subject is tabooed altogether by the remainder. This report goes out therefore with the record of but one Chapter of Instruction, a falling away that should receive its due meed of appreciation.

But a brighter side of the picture has been contributed in the assiduity displayed by the M. Ex. the Grand Z. He has, with a most praiseworthy persistence, explored the Province, and his timely visits to many centres have been the means of bringing together large meetings of the Companions and creating in them a renewed and let us hope a permanent enthusiasm.

CONDITION OF THE CHAPTERS.

While there has not been that advance that your Committee would rejoice to enlarge upon, yet the fire upon our altars burns without indication of waning. The flickerings which occasion a passing doubt are but premonitions of a future rekindling that will doubtless warm into brisk vitality many who are now benumbed by lukewarmness and indifference.

The Chapters reported as being in a state of somnolence or lethargy are Oxford, No. 18, Woodstock; St. James', No. 46, St. Mary's; Georgian, No. 56, Owen Sound; Beaver, No. 14, Strathroy; MacPherson, No. 86, Meaford; Tuscan, No. 95, Brampton; Pentalpha, No. 28, Oshawa; Pembroke, No. 58, Pembroke; King Hiram, No. 57, Port Colborne; Grimsby, No. 69, Grimsby.

Some of these are probably but enjoying the siesta which is a prelude to a refreshed awakening, but the tone of despondency which distinguishes the reports of others inspires little hope indeed. The Chapter at St. Mary's has, it is said, ceased to exist, but with a posthumous tenacity that might have been of substantial value if born earlier, the Companions refuse to surrender the warrant, wishing, as they say, to retain it as "a relic." The Companions of Bradford have thrown in their lot with those of Newmarket, and as their property, including the warrant, was destroyed by fire some time ago, the erasure of Seymour Chapter from the roll should follow. Maitland Chapter reported last year as dormant is now said to exhibit signs of returning life. The revival of interest in the condition of Spry Chapter, Alliston, and Golden Chapter, Rat Portage, are pleasing items of information in the Toronto and Algoma reports, while good has also been effected by the removal of the Malloch Chapter from Clifton to Seaforth and the amalgamation of Elora Chapter with that of Guelph.

Although the secession of the Companions of Metropolitan Chapter, No. 93, Melbourne, is a subject for regret, and perhaps instruction, yet the loyal enthusiasm of those adhering to the remaining Chapters under circumstances of peculiar difficulty commands admiration and deserves encouragement. From the Chapters recently instituted come tidings of a cheering nature, giving rise to the hope that the confidence of Grand Chapter, so far as they are concerned, has not been misplaced.

Consideration should be given to the suggestion of the Superintendent of the Manitoba District, who endorses the expressed desire of the British Columbia Companions for a separate district, believing that such a course would induce the existing Chapters of the Scottish register to affiliate. A voluntary assurance to this end, however, might be reasonably expected to pave the way to a realization of their wish.

GONE BEFORE.

Not a few who have for years labored with us in the quarries have during the short twelve months just passed been summoned to the presence of the Omniscient Overseer and received their wages. They have entered within the veil and gained a knowledge not possible to those who remain behind. Among those called recently the familiar voice and cheery greeting of R. E. Comps, G. M. Wilkinson, P.G. Supt., and John A. Wills, Past Grand Principal Sojourner, will long be remembered by those of us who were associated with them in Grand Chapter. Their devotion to the Royal Craft during many years connection was an example to many Companions who remember with gratitude their helpful counsel and fraternal encouragement. The gaps in our ranks which we thus annually record are periodical reminders that we too, if found worthy, are designed for some portion of the building, that house not made with hands eternal in the heavens.

Be it ours, Companions, then to hear
This mandate from the Great O'erseer :
" Your work is found both true and square,
Press on."

GEO. J. BENNETT,
Chairman Sub-Committee on Condition of Capitular Masonry.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. G. J. Bennett, and

Resolved, That the report of the Executive Committee on the condition of Capitular Masonry be received and adopted.

GRAND Z.'s ADDRESS.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., and the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The Executive Committee, to whom was referred the address of the M. Ex. Grand Z., beg leave to report as follows :

Your Committee would ask the Grand Chapter to join with the M. E. the Grand Z. in his expressions of sympathy for the losses by death which have been sustained in Capitular Masonry during the year.

R. Ex. Comp. John A. Wills was a prominent and useful member of the Grand Chapter, and a man of the most genial and kindly disposition. His loss will be severely felt by the members to whom he was so well known.

The removals by death, in other jurisdictions referred to by the M. E. Grand Z., call forth our heartfelt sympathy. Your Committee have pleasure in approving of the action of the M. Ex. Grand Z., in issuing the several dispensations recorded by him, and in the appointment of representatives to sister Grand Chapters.

Your Committee also approve of the decisions of the M. Ex. Grand Z., but with regard to the third decision, they are of the opinion that some constitutional provision should be made, so as to define the length of time of service which should be required to entitle a Companion to the rank of a Past Z.

The amalgamation of the Chapters in Guelph and Elora will, doubtless, prove advantageous to the Craft in that district, and your Committee approve of the recommendation that the charter of Elora Chapter, No. 49, should be cancelled, and returned to the amalgamated Chapters to be preserved in their archives.

Your Committee are glad to notice the great interest taken in the

work of the subordinate Chapters by the M. Ex. the Grand Z., as evidenced by the large number of official visitations. There can be no doubt of the beneficial influence of these official visits, in stirring up the officers and members to renewed energy, and in the encouragement of the workers who devote themselves to the interests of their Chapters, and your Committee recommend that the expenses of the M. Ex. the Grand Z. be paid by Grand Chapter.

Your Committee cordially agree with the suggestion of the M. Ex. Grand Z. as to holding Chapters of instruction in each district, as it is almost self evident that the results will be found in practice to be of the very greatest benefit.

In conclusion, your Committee believe that they voice the sentiment of Grand Chapter, in placing on record our hearty appreciation of the faithful services performed by the M. Ex. the Grand Z., and that the Companions under our jurisdiction are to be congratulated in having secured so efficient an officer.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

HY. ROBERTSON,
Chairman Sub. Committee.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, seconded by M. Ex. Comp. H. Robertson, and resolved,

That the report of the Executive Committee on the Address of the M. Ex. the Grand Z., be received and adopted.

WARRANTS.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., and the Grand Chapter of Canada.

Your Committee on Warrants have received an application from the necessary number of Companions, at Calgary, N. W. T., for the formation of a Chapter of R. A. M., to be styled "Alberta Chapter." After an examination of the application and papers, we recommend that a Warrant be issued to this Chapter, as prayed for.

We have also received applications for Warrants for the formation of the three following Chapters in the Colony of Victoria:

1. A Chapter to be held at the City of Melbourne, to be styled "Citizens' Chapter." The application is supported by the necessary number of signatures, and the recommendation of the Grand Superintendent of the district, and is recommended by the nearest Chapter, and we accordingly recommend that the Warrant be issued.

2. A Chapter to be held in Murtoa, to be called "The United Wimmera Chapter." The days of holding this Chapter are stated as the 9th days of each month, but as it may happen that one or more of these days may fall on Sunday, which was probably overlooked by the petitioners, we recommend that the days of meeting be fixed on the second Thursday of each month, that being the equivalent for the 9th of the next month after the petition, and that the Warrant be issued accordingly.

3. A Chapter to be held at Toonak, in the city of Prahan, to be called "The Duke of Albany Chapter," to be held on the third Monday of each month.

We find this and the application for the United Wimmera Chapter is signed by the requisite number of Companions, recommended by the G. Supt. and the nearest Chapter, we accordingly recommend that Warrants for these two Chapters be issued.

In the correspondence accompanying these applications are requests for permission to hold district Grand Chapters, which our Companions there allege would be of great service and convenience to them at present, but as this involves an amendment to our Constitution, it is not in the power of this Committee to deal with them, but we recommend Grand Chapter to take the necessary steps to authorize their formation, having regard to the peculiar and trying circumstances surrounding our Chapters in this district, and the unfriendly conduct of the unacknowledged Grand Chapter of Victoria.

In conclusion, we desire to convey to our far-away Companions under the Southern Cross, our fraternal greetings and sympathy in the trying circumstances in which they are placed, and to express the hope that the better feelings of the Companions of the other Grand bodies there will, under the softening influences of our Order, bring about a more friendly state of affairs.

M. WALSH,

Chairman of Sub. Committee on Warrants.

Ottawa, July 20th, 1893.

It was moved by R. Ex. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. M. Walsh, That the report of the Executive Committee on Warrants be adopted.

It was moved, in amendment, by M. Ex. Comp. J. J. Mason, seconded by M. Ex. Comp. Henry Robertson,

That clause, No. 3, of the report of the Committee on Warrants be referred back to the Committee, and that further information be obtained respecting the application for Warrants from Victoria, and that the report so amended be adopted.

The amendment was declared lost, and the original motion adopted.

BENEVOLENCE.

To the Most Excellent Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons of Canada :

The Executive Committee of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada on Benevolent grants beg leave to report :

That we have examined the applications sent in by the Subordinate Chapters, and would recommend that the following grants be made, viz. :

Name of Grantee.	Amt	¢	Through Whom Payable.
Widow of S. H. Blondheim	\$ 30	1	First Principal Anc. Fron and Cat., No. 1.
“ John Monro	10	2	“ “ “ “ “ “
Children of J. G. Burns	30	3	“ King Solomon, No 8.
Widow of Samuel Waltho	30	4	“ McCallum, No 29.
Comp. Arch. Couper	50	5	“ “ “ “
Orphan of M. McPhail	40	6	“ Huron, No. 30
Mother Donald McLeod	20	7	“ “ “ “
Widow of Robt. Ramsay	30	8	“ Signet, No. 34.
“ W. B. Wallace	30	9	“ Victoria, No. 37.
“ F. Bartlett	20	10	“ Mount Sinai, No 44.
“ John Vaux	20	11	“ Wellington, No. 47.
Comp. John Monro	40	12	“ Havelock, No 63.
Widow of T. D. Harrington	40	13	“ King Solomon, No. 8.

Your Committee beg to again call attention to the fact that local Chapters have not in six out of the twelve applications given any aid

to the applicants; that the gross amount of aid granted is \$370; that the amount granted by Chapters to applicants in the six cases only amounted to \$67; and that of this \$67, two of the amounts given, viz., \$20, are only approximated by the Scribe E. in filling up the answer to question No. 3 of the application.

The Committee would recommend that as grants for aid by Grand Chapter are only supplementary to those of subordinate Chapters, that in all cases for relief local aid must be given before a grant can issue from Grand Chapter.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. ROSS ROBERTSON,
Chairman.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence to whom was referred the matter of the recognition of the Grand Chapter of Victoria, beg leave to report thereon as follows:

Last year this Grand Chapter decided to defer action in this matter in the absence of information from our Canadian Chapters in the Colony of Victoria as to what their position would be with reference to the new body.

On the 27th day of January last (1893), a meeting of all the Past and Present Principals of the Canadian Chapters in Victoria was held in the Chapter Room, in the City of Melbourne. At this meeting a number of important resolutions were adopted, from which it appears that the new Grand Chapter will not recognize or receive the Canadian Chapters, and our members ask that we should uphold them in maintaining their rights.

There has also been a serious question raised as to the regularity of the formation of the new body, and under these circumstances your Committee recommend that no recognition be accorded, at this time, to the Grand Chapter of Victoria.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HY. ROBERTSON,
Chairman

It was moved by R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, seconded by M. E. Comp. H. Robertson, and

Resolved, That the Supplementary Report on Foreign Correspondence be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORK.

M. E. Comp. J. J. Mason then presented the following report:

To the M. E. the Grand Z., Officers and Members of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

M. E. SIR AND COMPANIONS,—The Committee appointed by the M. E. the Grand Z., to consider and report to him what changes, if any, might advisedly and acceptably be made in the work of the Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch degree, after carefully and minutely considering this most important question, came to the conclusion and so reported to the Grand Z., that in their opinion some portions of the work were unnecessarily long, and that other portions, without any detriment to the proper working, or beauty of the degrees, might with advantage be eliminated.

The Committee have endeavored to curtail the ceremonies without impairing their continuity or efficiency, and desire to obtain an expression of opinion from Grand Chapter on the following points:

1. Is it desirable and advisable that the Past Master's degree should be totally eliminated from the work?

2. If not, is it desirable and advisable that the degree should be retained but that it should be reduced to the lowest possible limit, and confined chiefly and wholly to the reception of the candidate, the O.B., the communication of the secrets, and the explanation thereof?

3. Is it desirable that the ceremony of the seating of the Ark and placing the Key-stone should be eliminated from the Most Excellent Master's degree?

All of which is respectively submitted.

J. J. MASON, P.G.Z.,
Chairman.

It was moved by M. E. Comp. J. J. Mason, seconded by R. E. Comp. D. H. Martyn, and

Resolved, That the Report of the Committee be adopted, and that in the opinion of Grand Chapter the Past Master's degree should be confined wholly to the reception of the candidate, the obligation, the communication of the secrets and the explanation thereof, and that the work of the Most Excellent Master's degree should be recast so as to certainly curtail, if not to strike out altogether, that part relating to the sealing of the Ark and the placing of the Keystone.

REPORT OF THE TESTIMONIAL COMMITTEE.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., etc.

The Committee appointed to procure and present a testimonial to Most Excellent Companion J. J. Mason, beg leave to report that the presentation took place on the 11th May, during the official visit of the Most Excellent Grand Z. to St. John's Chapter, Hamilton.

The presentation consisted of a gold watch and regalia and jewel, together with an illuminated address.

The address and the reply were as follows:

THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF CANADA.

To Most Excellent Companion John James Mason, Past Grand Z.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR AND DEAR BROTHER,—It must have been pleasing to you when, by unanimous vote, the Royal Arch Masons of Canada elected you to the highest office in their gift; and it must be doubly gratifying now to receive from them the assurance that, during your two years of Supreme Command, you have conducted the affairs of Grand Chapter to their entire satisfaction.

The zeal displayed by you in your high office was only equalled by the courtesy which has characterized your many years of faithful service as Grand Secretary of Grand Lodge.

Upon your retiring from the high office of Grand First Principal, your Companions in Grand Chapter, by resolution, appointed a committee to procure and present to you a testimonial, as an expression of the love and esteem in which you are held, and as an evidence of your distinguished services to Capitular Masonry.

The Committee now perform this duty with a great deal of pleasure, and, on behalf of Grand Chapter, beg your acceptance of this gold watch and this jewel, and the regalia of a Past Grand First Principal.

They give you the assurance, which they believe will be even more gratifying than the testimonial, that to your faithful performance of

the duties appertaining to your high position, is largely due the increased prosperity of Capitular Masonry during the past two years.

They express the wish that you may long live to be an ornament to the Order with which you have so enthusiastically connected yourself, and to which you have given the best years of your life; and that for many, many years you may be able to give to Royal Arch and Craft Masonry your valuable services.

R. B. HUNGERFORD,	} Committee.
J. ROSS ROBERTSON,	
M. WALSH,	
HUGH MURRAY,	
J. M. GIBSON,	

Hamilton, May 11th, 1893.

M. E. Comp. Mason replies as follows:

RIGHT EXCELLENT COMPANIONS,—Most heartily I thank you for the happy manner in which you have carried out the determination of Grand Chapter, as expressed at the last annual convocation, to present me with a testimonial.

The gift is in itself, and in its details, beautiful and valuable, and its value is to me immeasurably increased by the kind and loving words contained in the handsomely prepared address that accompanies it.

For upwards of twenty years I have been identified more or less prominently with the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction; have studied its ritual, and loved the work and its teachings. I have recognized and endeavored to inculcate the fact that the Royal Arch is the completion of the Master Mason's degree, and that it opens to our hearts and minds greater and grander thoughts of the incomprehensible Jehovah, who was, and is, and is to be, Father Lord, Word Lord, and Spirit Lord.

For two years Grand Chapter honored me by placing in my hands the sceptre of the Royal Solomon—two happy and prosperous years—during which I had the pleasure of visiting my Companions in different portions of the jurisdiction, and during which not one single cloud arose to mar the brightness of the sunshine that followed me whithersoever I went.

I desire also to thank you for your kind references to the honorable and responsible position I have occupied in Craft Masonry for the past nineteen years. Its work has been made lighter, and its duties pleasanter, by the endearing words, and substantial acts of kindness, that have been ceaselessly showered upon me by true, warmhearted, and generous Craftsmen from the moment that the position was given me to the present time.

I trust that your concluding wish may be more than gratified. The years go quickly by, and in God's own time I, too, must join the great majority. I may not have much to leave behind but a good name; let this be my aim, and may my son, when my presence is seen and my voice heard no more amongst you, feel a just pride in wearing that which his father, in his lifetime, valued and treasured so highly.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. H. Murray, seconded by M. E. Comp. R. Hungerford, and

Resolved, That the report of the Testimonial Committee be received and adopted.

MOTIONS.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. G. J. Bennett, seconded by R. E. Comp. A. E. Cooper, and

Resolved, That in accordance with the suggestion offered by the Superintendent of the Manitoba District, and the recommendation of the Committee on the Condition of Capitular Masonry, the British Columbia Companions be detached from the Manitoba District, and formed into a separate district, to be called British Columbia, No. 15.

It was moved by M. E. Comp. D. Spry, seconded by R. E. Comp. D. F. MacWatt, and

Resolved, That a new District be formed to be named the Georgian District, No. 9, to consist of the following Chapters :

Mo. 27, Manitou	-	-	-	Collingwood.
No. 34, Signet	-	-	-	Barrie.
No. 56, Georgian	-	-	-	Owen Sound.
No. 86, Macpherson	-	-	-	Meaford.
No. 92, Spry	-	-	-	Alliston.
No. 103, St. John's	-	-	-	North Bay.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, seconded by R. E. Comp. D. H. Martyn, and

Resolved, That clause 29, page 19, of the Grand Chapter Constitution, be amended by striking out the words "without notice being given at a previous Grand Chapter," and inserting in lieu thereof the words, "unless notice thereof has been sent in writing to the Grand Scribe E. previous to the 31st of December preceding the Convocation of Grand Chapter."

It was moved by M. Ex. Comp. J. J. Mason, seconded by M. Ex. Comp. D. Spry, and

Resolved, That a Committee consisting of the present Council and the Past Grand Z.'s be authorized to finally settle and print the work.

It was moved by M. Ex. Comp. D. Spry, seconded by R. Ex. Comp. D. H. Martyn, and

Resolved, That the work as finally approved by the Committee received this day be printed in a larger type than that used in printing the work of the Grand Lodge.

It was moved by M. Ex. Comp. Daniel Spry, seconded by M. Ex. Comp. J. J. Mason, and

Resolved, That in consideration of the labors in the interests of Royal Arch Masonry in the Colony of Victoria, Australia, the rank of Past Grand P. Sojourner be and is hereby conferred upon E. Comp. O. C. Kennedy, P.Z. ; J. Robertson, P.Z. ; and R. Tuffield, P.Z., and that the Grand Scribe E. do forward certificates of such appointment to the Grand Superintendent of the District, with instructions to duly install the several Companions.

It was moved by M. Ex. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, seconded by M. Ex. Comp. D. Spry, and

Resolved, That clause 77, page 30, of the Grand Chapter Constitution be amended by striking out the word, "Twenty," and substituting "Ten."

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, the Grand Scribes acting as scrutineers of the ballot.

The result of the election was as follows :

M. E. Comp. John E. Harding, Stratford, re-elected, Grand Z.
 R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, Toronto, " Grand H.
 R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, Ingersoll, " Grand J.

The Grand Chapter was then called off for the space of ten minutes.
 The Grand Chapter resumed labor.

PRESENT.

M. E. Comp. J. E. Harding, Q. C., Grand Z.

R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, Grand H.

R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, Grand J.

Grand Officers, Members, and Representatives.

The following Companions were nominated by the representatives from the respective districts, and approved by the M. E. Grand Z.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

V. E. Comp.	Geo. Middleditch, Ridgetown,	St. Clair,	Dis. No.	1.
E. "	H. C. Simpson, London,	London,	" "	2.
R. E. "	J. D. Christie, Simcoe, re-elected,	Wilson,	" "	3.
E. "	G. V. T. Greenhill, Galt,	Wellington,	" "	4.
E. "	A. Smith, Hamilton,	Hamilton,	" "	5.
R. E. "	C. A. Humber, Goderich, re-elect'd,	Huron,	" "	6.
V. E. "	L. A. Congdon, Dunnville,	Niagara,	" "	7.
V. E. "	W. G. Eakins, Toronto,	Toronto,	" "	8.
R. E. "	D. F. MacWatt, Barrie,	Georgian,	" "	9.
E. "	G. E. R. Wilson, Colborne,	Ontario,	" "	10.
R. E. "	J. Aylesworth, Tamworth, re-elected,	Prince Edward, ...	" "	11.
E. "	E. B. Butterworth, Ottawa	Central,	" "	12.
E. "	D. T. Ferguson, Rat Portage,	Algoma,	" "	13.
V. E. "	F. L. Newman, Portage La Prairie, Manitoba,	" "	" "	14.
E. "	W. Downie, Vancouver,	B. Columbia	" "	15.
E. "	Joseph D'Amer Drew, Melbourne, Australia	" "	" "	16.

The election of officers was then resumed, with the following results :

M. E. Comp. Thomas Sargent, Toronto, re-elected, Grand Scribe E.
 R. E. " A. Carruthers, London, Grand Scribe N.
 V. E. " W. Walker, Toronto, Grand Prin Soj.
 R. E. " Hugh Murray, Hamilton, re-elected, Grand Treasurer.
 V. E. " H. J. Wilkinson, Kingston, Grand Registrar.
 " W. W. Summers, Hamilton, Grand Janitor.

The following named Companions were elected members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year :

R. E. Comp. D. H. Martyn, Kincardine, re-elected.
 " " W. G. Reid, Hamilton.
 " " William Gibson, Beamsville, re-elected.
 " " A. E. Cooper, London, re-elected.
 " " A. Shaw, Kingston, re-elected.

The Grand Z., M. Ex. Comp. John E. Harding, was then pleased to appoint the following Companions as members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year, viz. :

R. E. Comp.	David Taylor, Ottawa.
" "	D. Bole, Sault Ste. Marie.
" "	Wm. Roaf, Toronto.
" "	Jas. Reynolds, Brockville.
" "	P. W. D. Broderick, London.

The following named Companions compose the Committee on Benevolence, and are members of the Executive Committee for the following term :

R. E. Comp. John S. Dewar, London, retires in 1895.

M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, Barrie, retires in 1896.

R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, Toronto, retires in 1894.

M. E. Comp. J. E. Harding, G. Z., assisted by M. E. Comps. R. B. Hungerford and J. J. Mason, then proceeded with the installation and investiture of the newly-elected officers, who were proclaimed with the usual Masonic ceremony.

At a subsequent date, the M. E. the Grand Z. was pleased to notify the Grand Scribe E. of the following appointments to office for the ensuing year :

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

V. E. Comp.	G. F. Shepley, Toronto,	Grand 1st Asst. Soj.
" "	W. A. Woolson, Ingersoll,	" 2nd "
" "	T. R. Bain, Toronto,	" Sword Bearer.
" "	R. Rev. A. W. Sillitoe, Vancouver,	" M. of Veils.
" "	W. H. Burgess, North Bay,	" Standard Bearer
" "	A. R. Hargraft, Cobourg,	" Dir. of Cer.
" "	J. A. Campbell, Ottawa,	" Organist.
" "	Robt. W. Longmore, Napanee	" Pursuivant.
" "	W. J. Haney, Sault Ste Marie	" Steward.
" "	C. H. Connor, St. Catharines	" "
" "	J. A. Morton, Wingham,	" "
" "	R. A. Hutcheson, Hamilton	" "

The M. E. Grand Z. directed that each Companion elected or appointed to office not having presented himself for installation or investiture, is to be installed or invested in the Chapter of which he is a member

NOTICES OF MOTION.

The following Notices of Motion for the next Annual Convocation were given, viz. :

By R. E. Comp. D. H. Martyn—

That Section 1X. of the Constitution of Grand Chapter be so amended as to allow Grand Chapter to fix the time and place of its Convocations without regard to the meeting of the Grand Lodge A. F. and A. M. of Canada.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson, seconded by R. E. Comp. M. Walsh, and

Resolved, That the cordial vote of thanks of this Grand Chapter is due and hereby tendered to the Companions of Ottawa Chapters for their kindly attention and fraternal and hospitable reception of the

officers and representatives of Grand Chapter during their stay in the city of Ottawa, as well as for the very satisfactory arrangements made for the Thirty-sixth Annual Convocation of this Grand Body.

The labors of the Grand Chapter being ended, it was closed in **Ample Form** at 5 p.m.



W. Sargant

GRAND SCRIBE E.

OTTAWA, 21st July, A. I. 2423, A. D. 1893.

ADDENDUM.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS AS ON 31st MAY, 1893, AND LEDGER BALANCES TO 30th JUNE, 1894.

No	Name of Chapter.	Where Held.	Regular Meeting	First Principal Z.	Scribe E.	Admin'n	Joinings	Resto'ns	Withals	Susp'ns	Expuls'ns	Deaths	Members	Last Return.	Ledger Bal.		Paid Grand Chapter
															Dr.	Cr.	
1	An. Fron. & Catar'i.	Kingston	Third Wed.	James Adams...	J. S. Skinner...	5	..	..	3	4	..	2	85	May'93	..	..	56 80
2	The Hiram	Hamilton	First Monday	Thos. M. Davis	Geo. E. Mason...	9	1	..	4	4	..	2	178	"	..	3 00	57 50
3	St. John's	London	Fourth Wed	W. T. Duff	John Siddons	5	..	1	1	4	..	2	78	"	..	..	28 60
4	St. And. & St. John.	Toronto	Third Friday	T. B. Cole	Chas. J. Gibson	9	..	..	3	3	..	1	96	"	..	..	47 20
5	St. George	London	Third Tuesday	L. W. Burk	Chas. C. Reed	9	..	1	..	2	..	..	82	"	..	..	36 90
6	St. John's	Hamilton	Second Thurs.	Wm. Birrell	W. J. McAllister	14	2	..	7	..	..	1	239	"	..	..	91 70
7	Moir	Belleville	First Tuesday	Henry Pringle	Geo. Duhamel	12	..	1	1	..	..	1	103	"	..	..	57 00
8	King Solomon	Toronto	First Wednesday	S. Brown	John Roberts	3	1	..	1	18	..	1	130	"	..	2 20	35 50
15	Wawanosh.	Sarnia	Second Friday	D. M. Grant	C. Mole	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	42	"	..	..	8 40
16	Carleton	Ottawa	Third Friday	W. B. McArthur	W. G. S. Reynolds	3	2	..	1	5	..	1	73	"	..	..	29 60
18	Oxford	Woodstock	Third Monday	A. R. Macdonald.	Chas. A. Pyne	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	35	"	..	..	9 00
19	Mount Moriah	St. Catharines	F. on or b. f. m.	J. H. Ingersoll	A. E. Swayze	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	66	"	..	..	27 00
20	Mount Horeb	Brantford	First Wednesday	S. F. Passmore	W. L. Hughes	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	56	"	..	..	36 20
22	Grenville	Prescott	Second Tuesday	John F. Graham	John A. Graham	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	45	"	..	..	16 00
23	Ezra	Simcoe	Thur. after f. m.	W. S. Wood	W. P. Kelley	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	39	"	16 80	..	..
24	Tecumseh	Stratford	First Tuesday	F. W. Gearing	J. Baker	7	3	1	4	..	..	..	46	"	..	..	31 70
26	St. Mark's	Trenton	First Wednesday	D. J. Walker, Jr.	W. O. Lott	3	1	..	..	..	..	2	35	"	..	..	18 00
27	Manitou	Collingwood	First Friday	Robert Dey	Frank B. Gregory	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	32	"	..	..	13 40
28	Pentalpha	Oshawa	Second Friday	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	May'92	..	..	..
29	McCallum	Dunnville	Fri. on or a. f. m.	Samuel Arisden	W. H. Braund	4	..	..	..	..	..	1	44	May'93	..	..	38 00
30	Huron	Goderich	Third Tuesday	Isaac F. Forrist	W. A. Rhynias	4	..	1	1	..	..	..	44	"	..	..	9 80
31	Prince Edward	Pictou	M. on or a. f. m.	John Waring	H. Willbanks	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	66	"	..	..	35 20
32	Waterloo	Galt	Second Monday	E. T. Kenning	James M. Hood	4	..	..	1	2	..	2	31	"	..	..	31 00
34	Signet	Barrie	Second Tuesday	R. J. Fraser	Fred. Marr	1	..	..	2	5	..	1	43	"	..	..	17 60
35	Keystone	Whitby	Third Friday	And. M. Ross	Joseph King	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	36	"	..	..	12 00
36	Corinthian	Peterboro'	Third Tuesday	David Spence	John McKee	3	..	..	3	..	..	..	48	"	1 00	..	12 60
37	Victoria	Port Hope	Second Thurs.	J. W. Quinlan	Geo. Reading	..	..	..	1	2	..	1	21	"	..	..	5 20
38	Seymour	Bradford	Fri. after f. m.	Members have joined Doric, Newmarket	Warr't surrend.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	"	..	..	6 20
40	Guelph	Guelph	Second Friday	W. Watson	H. Macdonald	..	9	..	2	23	..	..	54	"	..	..	41 00
41	Harris	Ingersoll	Second Friday	W. L. Underwood	J. H. Hegler	3	..	..	1	5	..	1	34	"	..	..	16 80
44	Mount Sinai	Napanee	Wed. after f. m.	Jas. Woodhams	R. L. Henry	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	47	"	..	..	31 00
45	Excelsior	Colborne	First Thursday	..	G. E. R. Wilson	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28	May'90	..	..	5 00
46	St. James	St. Mary's	Second Wed.	Warrant withdrawn	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
47	Wellington	Chatham	Second Thurs.	Robert J. Birch.	James Birch	3	..	1	3	3	..	..	32	May'93	..	..	17 80

48 St. John's	Cobourrg	Fri. on or b. f. m.	Wm. Rankin	R. J. Craig	2	1	1	27 May 93	.....	\$12 40
49 Elora	Elora	Wed. after f. m.	Analag'd with G	ueph Chap. No.	40	..	..	17 "	.....	14 40
52 Prince Rupert	Winnipeg	First Thursday	J. L. Haddack	J. M. Sutter	10	6	..	168 "	.....	70 10
53 Bruce	Petrolia	First Thursday	H. Mann	H. Killridge	..	..	..	33 May 92	.....	19 20
54 Palestine	St. Thomas	Second Tuesday	Hy. Bradshaw	W. E. Jusardi	..	5	..	81 May 93	.....	..
55 Niagara	Niagara	Thurs. a. f. m.	W. A. Thompson	W. T. Keyes	1	..	..	18 "	.....	8 80
56 Georgian	Owen Sound	Third Tuesday	Allan Cameron	Jas. Douglas	..	..	..	39 "	.....	..
57 King Hirau	Port Colborne	First Thursday	I. C. Jordan	E. B. McKae	..	..	..	32 May 91	2 20	..
58 Pembroke	Pembroke	Second Monday	I. Quigg	Jonathan Green	1	1	2	1 42 May 93	.....	2 00
59 Sussex	Brockville	First Wednesday	P. T. Lee	Ed. Denne	3	..	..	28 May 92	.....	13 00
60 Doric	Newmarket	Second Monday	Ralph Hill	J. McY. Munro	1	6	..	21 May 93	.....	20 00
61 Granite	Alnoutie	1 Th. after f. m.	G. H. C. Brooke	A. D. Spears	..	..	..	45 "	.....	20 00
62 York	Eglington	Third Thursday	R. D. Hall	J. A. Cooke	3	6	..	36 "	.....	37 00
63 Havelock	Kincardine	Last Wednesday	W. M. Guior	A. E. Taylor	3	1	..	40 May 92	.....	42 20
64 Wilson	Welland	Second Wed	F. Sparling	John McKnight	9	3	2	90 May 93	.....	1 00
65 St. Paul's	Toronto	Fri. on or b. f. m.	W. G. Duff	F. G. Neelin	6	..	..	29 May 92	.....	..
66 The Malloch	Seaforth	First Friday	Alw. Irvine	Alex. Michie	3	1	..	21 May 90	.....	14 10
67 Enterprise	Harriston	1 Fri. after f. m.	I. Chapman	J. B. Lowe	..	..	..	26 "	.....	5 40
68 Maitland	North Augusta	1 W. J. S. N. J. M.	Wm. Gibson	R. Thompson	2	2	..	25 May 93	.....	12 00
69 Grimsby	Amherstburg	Mon. after f. m.	Geo. Gott	Rd. Elliott	..	..	..	26 May 92	.....	2 00
71 Prince of Wales	Ridgetown	Mon. after f. m.	Geo. Middleditch	A. Long	..	..	..	36 May 93	.....	..
73 Erie	Strathroy	Second Tuesday	Jas. A. Fraser	J. M. Mitchell	1	1	..	17 May 93	.....	3 90
74 Beaver	Milton	Second Wed	Jas. E. Jones	Geo. Hyatt	3	9	..	69 May 92	26 20	15 20
75 St. Clair	Niagara Falls S.	Fri. on or b. f. m.	A. G. Horwood	Geo. Addy	2	..	..	16 May 93	.....	16 40
76 Mount Nelo	Toronto	Second Monday	Wm. Caw	D. McLeod	5	5	..	57 May 92	.....	1 00
77 Occident	Parkhill	Second Wed	J. S. Ballantyne	J. C. Nancollas	3	3	6	52 May 93	.....	39 40
78 Minnewawa	Toronto	Fourth Thurs	Thos. Peters	Geo. Jeffers	7	..	..	50 May 92	.....	12 00
79 Orient	Windsor	Second Monday	J. S. Richardson	W. McThogan	3	..	..	50 May 92	.....	32 00
80 Ark	Aylmer	Fri. on or b. f. m.	Jas. A. Fraser	M. S. Garland	..	..	..	50 May 93	.....	22 00
81 Aythier	Port Arthur	Fri. on or a. f. m.	J. C. Brown	Geo. Irwin	6	..	..	24 "	.....	4 00
82 Shuniah	Orangeville	Friday	C. E. Williams	J. A. Morton	3	1	..	22 "	.....	3 80
83 Ionic	Wingham	First Wednesday	J. W. Eacrat	G. A. K. McLeod	1	..	..	20 "	.....	11 20
84 Lebanon	Exeter	First Tuesday	J. W. Sparling	R. W. Evans	..	..	..	19 "	.....	70 70
85 Exeter	Meaford	Second Thurs	J. W. Sharpe	Jas. H. McVean	..	..	..	32 "	.....	29 00
86 Macpherson	Dresden	First Thursday	J. T. Weidman	John K. Brydon	8	2	2	20 "	.....	32 00
88 Macnabb	Rat Portage	Second Friday	J. T. Weidman	S. W. Baker	8	..	..	33 "	.....	10 60
90 Golden	Toronto	Second Tuesday	J. Orlando Orr	D. Hopper	2	..	..	42 "	.....	10 60
91 Antiquity	Alliston	Last Friday	D. K. Ross	Sur rendered Warra	2	1	..	..	.....	..
92 Spy	Melbourne	Third Thursday	B. Dingle	G. S. Patrick	..	..	..	..	.....	..
93 Metropolitan	Lindsay	Second Monday	W. G. Jessop	A. Morton	..	..	..	..	.....	..
94 Midland	Brampton	Second Monday	W. G. Jessop	A. Morton	..	..	..	..	.....	..
95 Tuscan	Brampton	Second Monday	W. G. Jessop	A. Morton	..	..	..	..	.....	..

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS AS ON 31st MAY, 1893, AND LEDGER BALANCES TO 30th JUNE, 1894.

No	Name of Chapter	Where Held.	Regular Meeting	First Principal Z.	Scribe E.	Admits'n	Joinings	Reston's	Withdrawals	Suspns	Expn'ts	Deaths	Members	Last Returns	Ledger Bal's		Paid Grand Chapter
															Dr.	Cr.	
96	Anstralian Kilwin'	Melbourne	Third Monday	R. Tuffield	F. F. W. Brady.	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	28	May 93			\$25 00
97	City of Melbourne.	Abbotsford.	Third Thursday.	S. H. Leishman	G. H. Elliott	31	1	1	6	6	6	6	73	"			42 00
98	Vancouver	Vancouver	Sec. Wednesday	C. Z. Perry	J. W. Prescott.	10	4	1	2	2	2	2	24	"			10 20
99	Key Stone	Portage l' Prairie	First Wednesday	Geo. Davison.	P. Whinister	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	46	"			12 90
100	St. Lawrence.	Brockville	First Thursday	W. C. Colcock	T. A. Brown.	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	32	"			6 80
101	Corinthian	Boisevain	Wednesday	Richard Wells	Jas. Rae	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	38	"			41 40
102	Algonquin	Sault Ste. Marie.	Second Friday	W. H. Heuch	C. Saunders	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	31	"			59 00
103	St. John's	North Bay	First Saturday	John J. Lovell	W. T. Plummer.	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	31	"			35 50
104	White Oak.	Oakville	Tuesday	W. A. Ferreh.	W. O. Joyce....	1	1	1	3	3	3	3	63	"			68 60
105	Signet.....	Winnipeg	Fourth Wednes.	W. G. Bell	O. S. Collins	14	1	1	1	1	1	1	23	"			68 00
106	Alberta	Calgary	First Tuesday.	N. J. Lindsay.	Geo. Murdoch	11	1	1	1	1	1	1	34	40 23			\$2742 74
						335	34	6	93	107							

RECAPITULATION.

Number of Chapters on roll	87	Number of Suspensions on the rolls	107
" " Represented	77	" Deaths	34
" Registrations reported	335	" Expulsions	4023
" " " "	36	Total number of Members on the roll of Grand Chapter	\$2,742 74
" Restorations	6	Total amount of Receipts 1890-91	
" Withdrawals	93		

SUSPENSIONS—NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

No. 1—Wm. Parsons, Henry Bawden, Alex. Milligan, Wm. H. Drennai. 2—R. McKee, J. B. Blair, Jas. Foster, J. W. Schrum. 3—J. A. Rose, W. H. Heard, H. A. McCallum, John Aikins. 4—W. H. Evans, E. W. Powers, John Ewen. 8—John Nicholson, E. J. Barton, T. M. Caven, Henry Fogler, Hugh Wilson, A. W. Clarke, W. H. Hoskin, C. McLennan, John H. Chaperon, Fred. Wilmott, Sol. Fogler, Joseph Raffan, D. Bell, A. R. Byington, Jas. D. Young, W. E. Southgate, Edwin Betts, Frank Adams. 16—E. S. Scott, E. Pervton, F. B. Wood, C. W. Mitchell, E. Plant. 32—Wm. Phelps, R. S. Blain. 34—A. B. McPhee, Alf. Arnott, C. L. Sanders, R. A. Dutton, E. B. Alport. 37—J. G. King, M. B. Hull. 40—Geo. Anderson, Jno. W. Burgess, Thos. Dobbin, J. H. Finlay, W. Gibson, Alex. E. Hogg, Daniel Hunter, John Hough, A. F. H. Jones, J. J. Kelso, J. J. Main, H. K. Maitland, H. Nicholson, A. R. K. Macdonald, D. McCrae, Allan McIntyre, Jas. Parkes, F. W. Randall, Jas. Sparks, Wm. Wilde, A. Weir, J. A. Saunders. 41—P. J. Brown, A. D. Hoagg, M. H. Grey, Henry Herron, Alex. Macauley. 44—Edgar A. Connolly, Peter C. Davis. 63—John Matheson, Thos. Lawrence, B. Freir, J. Tolmi, B. Smith, A. A. Macintosh. 65—Wm. Nehemann, J. A. Ross. 71—John E. Martin, Rev. C. Batstone. 78—R. Waller, D. Atkinson, W. E. Hooper, J. James, A. Karr. 79—R. H. Reed, Jno. E. Schiller, Chas. Heyes, W. B. Poulton, F. W. Mallory, Chas. E. Petter. 91—Malcolm R. Clissold, Walter English.

RESTORATIONS.

No. 3—J. H. McLay. 5—W. Thornton. 24—A. H. Thompson.

AT REST.

No. Chap.	NAME.	DATE.
1	George M. Wilkinson	14th Jan 1893
1	Wm. J. Wilson.....	3rd March 1893
2	John Clayton	20th June 1892
2	Otto Koltz.....	
3	John Scandrett	29th Jan 1892
3	Thos. B. Robb	12th Nov 1892
4	R. McKim.....	6th Aug 1892
6	A. Doherty	26th Nov 1892
7	J. W. Browne	1st Oct 1892
8	F. D. Barker	22nd Jan. 1893
8	John A. Wills.....	16th June 1893
16	W. H. Tracy	16th Jan 1893
26	Geo. W. Deuch	3rd May 1893
26	Wm. Van Horn	10th May 1893
29	Wm. Logan	15th Aug 1892
32	J. C. Smith	26th May 1888
32	John Collie	8th June 1890
34	Dr. R. A. Ross	27th April 1893
37	J. B. Traves	12th Oct 1892
40	J. B. Armstrong	11th Dec 1892
41	Chas. H. Slawson	4th Jan 1893
48	J. T. Alexander	
54	P. Grant..	29th 1893
55	G. J. Miller	29th March 1893
59	J. Harris	8th March 1893
62	F. Brooks	30th Oct 1892
64	E. Milchrist.....	25th June 1893
76	S. Smith.	24th July 1892
78	J. Gray	10th Feb 1886
78	J. T. Lackey	Dec 1889
78	John Arnold.....	26th March 1893
79	J. G. Holmes.....	June 1892

In Memoriam.

R. EX. COMP,
JOHN A. WILLS, 18,
OF TORONTO,
P. G. P. Soj.

DIED

16th June, 1893.

“ Into the long procession
That passes away to the night,
Gone, yea ! forever and ever,
Gone to life's region of light.

“ Out from the shadow of suffering,
Drifting across the dark main,
Into the brighter future,
Out from the gloom of pain.”

In Memoriam.

R. EX. COMP,
GEO. M. WILKINSON,
OF KINGSTON.
P. G. Supt.

DIED

January 14th, 1893.

“ One by one we yield our places to our successors,
And they, in turn, must follow our example ;
One by one we are borne to the grave
By those who in their turn must follow us.”

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER 1893-94.

THIR GRAND Z.

M. E. Comp. John E. Harding, Q.C. Stratford

THE GRAND H.

THE GRAND J.

R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson..Toronto. | R. E. Comp. M. Walsh.....Ingersoll

THE GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

		District No.	
R. E. Comp. G. Middleditch.....	Ridgetown	St. Clair	1
R. E. Comp. H. C. Simpson.....	London	London	2
R. E. Comp. J. D. Christie.....	Simcoe	Wilson	3
R. E. Comp. G. V. T. Greenhill.....	Galt.....	Wellington	4
R. E. Comp. A. Smith	Hamilton	Hamilton	5
R. E. Comp. C. A. Humber	Goderich.....	Huron	6
R. E. Comp. L. A. Congdon	Dunville	Niagara	7
R. E. Comp. Geo. Eakins	Toronto	Toronto	8
R. E. Comp. D. F. MacWatt.....	Barrie	Georgetown	9
R. E. Comp. G. E. R. Wilson	Colborne.....	Ontario	10
R. E. Comp. J. Aylesworth	Tamworth	Prince Edward	11
R. E. Comp. E. B. Butterworth	Ottawa	Central	12
R. E. Comp. D. T. Ferguson.....	Rat Portage	Algoma	13
R. E. Comp. F. L. Newman	Portage l' Prairie.....	Manitoba	14
E. Comp. W. Downie	Vancouver	B. Columbia	15
E. Comp. Joseph Milton D'A. Drew.....	Melbourne	Australia	16

GRAND SCRIBE K.

GRAND SCRIBE N.

M. E. Comp. Thos. Sargent, Toronto. | R. E. Comp. A. Carruthers, London

GRAND PRINCIPAL SOJOURNER.

R. E. Comp. Wm. Walker

GRAND TREASURER.

R. E. Comp. Hugh Murray.....

GRAND REGISTRAR.

R. E. Comp. H. L. Wilkinson

V. E. Comp. G. F. Shepley

V. E. Comp. W. A. Woolson

V. E. Comp. T. R. Bain

V. E. Comp. Rt. Rev. A. W. Sillitoe.....

V. E. Comp. W. H. Burgess

V. E. Comp. A. R. Hargratt

V. E. Comp. J. A. Campbell.....

V. E. Comp. Robt. W. Longmore

THE GRAND STEWARDS

V. E. Comp. W. J. Haney..Sault Ste. Marie | V. E. Comp. J. A. Morton.....

V. E. Comp. C. H. Connor..St. Catharines | V. E. Comp. R. A. Hutcheson...
Comp W. W. Summers, Hamilton

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

PRESIDENT.

R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson

BY VIRTUE OF OFFICE.

M. E. Comp. Fred. J. Menet.....

M. E. Comp. Donald Ross.....

M. E. Comp. Robert Hendry, Jr. Kingston | M. E. Comp. Thos. Sargent

M. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford.....

M. E. Comp. J. J. Mason

R. E. Comp. M. Walsh.....

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

		District No.	
R. E. Comp. G. Middleditch	Ridgetown.....	St. Clair	1
R. E. Comp. H. C. Simpson.....	London.....	London	2
R. E. Comp. J. D. Christie.....	Simcoe	Wilson	3
R. E. Comp. G. V. T. Greenhill.....	Galt.....	Wellington	4
R. E. Comp. A. Smith	Hamilton	Hamilton	5
R. E. Comp. C. A. Humber	Goderich.....	Huron	6
R. E. Comp. L. A. Congdon	Dunnville	Niagara	7
R. E. Comp. W. G. Eakins	Toronto	Toronto	8
R. E. Comp. D. F. MacWatt	Barrie	Georgetown	9
R. E. Comp. G. E. R. Wilson	Colborne.....	Ontario	10
R. E. Comp. J. Aylesworth	Tamworth	Prince Edward	11
R. E. Comp. E. B. Butterworth	Ottawa	Central	12
R. E. Comp. D. T. Ferguson.....	Rat Portage	Algoma	13
R. E. Comp. F. L. Newman	Portage l' Prairie.....	Manitoba	14
R. E. Comp. W. Downie	Vancouver	B. Columbia	15
R. E. Comp. Joseph Milton D'A. Drew.....	Melbourne	Australia	16

CHAIRMEN FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

<i>Jurisdiction.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Address.</i>	<i>Jurisdiction.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Address.</i>
Alabama	Palmer J. Pilans	Mobile	Montana	Chas. J. Phelps	Omaha
Arizona	H. B. Neghttizer	Phoenix	Nebraska	A. S. Waite	Newport
Arkansas	R. J. Laughlin	Bentonville	New Brunswick	H. Veshlage	Irvington
California	T. H. Casswell	San Francisco	New Hampshire	Frank Bell	Reno
Canada	Henry Robertson	Collingwood	New Jersey	Geo. J. Gardner	Syracuse
Colorado	E. L. N. Foster	Georgetown	Nevada	New York	Durham
Connecticut	John W. Barlow	Birmingham	New York	Thos. J. Wilder	Casselton
Delaware	V. H. Harrison	Wilmington	North Carolina	Alex. Ross	Halifax
District of Columbia	W. R. Singleton	Washington	North Dakota	S. Stacker Williams	Toledo
Florida	Enos Wasgate	Jacksonville	Nova Scotia	J. M. Hodgson	Portland
Georgia	W. S. Ransay	Dublin	Ohio	M. H. Henderson	Philadelphia
Illinois	John M. Pearson	Godfrey	Oregon	E. T. D. Chambers	Quebec
Indiana	Thos. B. Long	Terre Haute	Pennsylvania	Geo. H. Burnham	Providence
Iowa	T. R. Ercanbrack	Annamosau	Quebec	J. E. Burke	Charleston
Ireland	R. W. Hill	Atoka	Rhode Island	Geo. A. Pettigrew	Flandran
Indian Territory	John H. Brown	Kansas City	South Carolina	Geo. C. Connor	Chattanooga
Kansas	Jas. W. Staton	Brookville	South Dakota	Geo. Lopas, Jr.	Floresville
Kentucky	Rev. H. C. Duncan	Alexandria	Tennessee	Marshall O. Perkins	Windsor
Louisiana	J. H. Drummond	Portland	Texas	Wm. B. Isaacs	Richmond
Maine	E. T. Schultz	Baltimore	Vermont	Yancy C. Blalock	Walla Walla
Maryland	S. Bowen	Boston	Virginia	Odell S. Long	Charleston
Massachusetts	Wm. P. Innes	Grand Rapids	Washington	Wm. C. Swan	Milwaukee
Michigan	Thos. Montgomery	St. Paul	West Virginia		
Minnesota	P. M. Savery	Tupelo	Wisconsin		
Mississippi	Wm. H. Mayo	St. Louis	Scotland		
Missouri					

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APPENDIX.

1893.

Grand Chapter of Canada.

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE

HENRY ROBERTSON, Chairman.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

Your Committee on Correspondence beg leave to present their *twenty-sixth* annual report.

All the proceedings which have been received have been carefully examined, and a synopsis will be made of the most important and interesting features which appear in the doings of our Companions in other jurisdictions.

A list of the proceedings reviewed will be given at the close of the report.

Of the proceedings received during the past year, the first in importance are the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, a body which is mainly composed of representatives from the several Grand Chapters of the States, and which, in spite of its having no legislative powers to speak of, except over the subordinate chapters chartered by itself, has attained a dignity and importance which fairly entitle it to a most influential position in Masonry.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

The 28th Stated Convocation was held at Minneapolis, Minnesota, July 22nd, 1891.

David F. Day, G.G.H.P.

We quote the opening of his excellent address :

"It is a privilege and a pleasure of no ordinary kind which falls to my lot to-day. As your presiding officer, it devolves upon me to bid you welcome to your seats in this Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America. As constituents of that body, you are the representatives of no less than forty-two Grand Chapters of States and Territories, and more than one hundred and forty thousand individual Royal Arch Masons. There are not so many to be found elsewhere in all the world. You have come here from every portion of our happy and united land—from the States which border upon the Great Lakes at the North, and from those which lie beside the fervid waters of the Mexican Gulf; from the Central States of the Union, rich in the exuberant fertility of their soil, and from the States of the Rocky Mountain Range, rich in their inexhaustible store of mineral deposits. You are here from the Atlantic States, whose history has already something of the aroma of antiquity, and you are here from the Pacific States, whose birth seems but as yesterday. You are indeed the representatives of a realm of continental dimensions—the home of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity."

During his official term, five new Grand Chapters have been added to the roll, South Dakota, North Dakota, Indian Territory, Arizona and Montana.

The most important decision given is as follows :

"4. In January of the present year, my attention was called by M. E. A. Brandenburg, Grand High Priest of Minnesota, to a resolution adopted by the General Grand Chapter at its last Convocation. The resolution is in the following language: 'Resolved, That membership in a Chapter *should* be dependent upon and co-existent with membership in a lodge of Freemasons.' (Proceedings of 1889, page 83.) The enquiry made by Companion Brandenburg was whether the word '*should*' in the resolution was equivalent in meaning to the word '*shall*.'

"I held in answer to the question that the resolution was only declaratory of the sense of the General Grand Chapter that every Royal Arch Mason ought to be in affiliation with a lodge of Freemasons, but all legislation upon the subject must be left to the Grand Chapters of the States and Territories, or to their subordinates, and that the power of the General Grand Chapter in the matter was limited to its immediate subordinates."

He urges most strongly that the Grand Chapters of Rhode Island and Texas, which formerly belonged to the General Grand Chapter, but withdrew, should be induced to rejoin, and failing to do so by 1893, non-intercourse should be declared against them. He also says :

"In view of the fact that our one-hundredth anniversary will occur in 1897, it has seemed to me, that it might be well, at this Convocation, to consider some plan looking to the union of the Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia with the General Grand Chapter. Nor would it seem to me unreasonable if a proposition of a still wider scope should be considered. I mean the union with us of the Grand Chapters of all the Canadian Provinces, in one organization, which might then be appropriately named the Supreme Grand Chapter of North America."

In the report of the General Grand Secretary we find the following interesting statistical statements :

"The following tabular statement, prepared from the annual reports received from the several Grand Chapters, and from the printed proceedings of those from which no reports were received, is presented for the purpose of showing the number of exaltations, the changes of membership in the chapters subordinate to the Grand Chapters of this jurisdiction, and the number of affiliated Royal Arch Masons therein, in each of the years 1889 and 1890 :

	1889.	1890.	Total.
Number exalted.....	9,554	10,139	19,693
" Affiliated.....	1,471	1,620	3,091
" Restored.....	731	788	1,519
Increase.....	11,756	12,547	24,303
Number dimitted.....	2,894	2,875	5,769
" Suspended.....	2,834	2,377	5,211
" Expelled.....	60	79	139
" Died.....	1,835	1,988	3,823
Decrease.....	7,623	7,319	14,942
Affiliated Companions.....	135,831	141,901	.....

"As compared with a similar statement contained in the report submitted at the last Triennial Convocation, which embraced the statistics of like character for the preceding triennial period, the foregoing table shows a marked increase in the number of those exalted, affiliated and restored for the years 1889 and 1890, while the decrease of membership for those years from the various causes stated is increased but very little, the net gain of affiliated companions being 10,058, or more than the usual percentage of increase from term to term."

Relative to Chapters in Mexico and Central America, Comp. Fox says :

"Applications for the issue of warrants of dispensation to organize Chapters under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, in the City of Mexico, and at Greytown, Nicaragua, Central America, were received some months ago, and duly filed in the office of the General Grand Secretary.

"These petitions were not recommended by any Chapter, and such recommendation, under the circumstances, was hardly to be expected, nor were they accompanied by the dispensation fee or the certificates of dimission of the petitioners. There is no doubt that the fee would have been gladly paid in case of the issue of the dispensation, but the more serious difficulty of establishing the fact that the petitioners were 'Royal Arch Masons in good standing, and of good moral character and of sufficient Masonic abilities,' in the absence of documentary evidence, seemed a stumbling block in the way of granting the prayer of the petitions. Moral worth and Masonic ability cannot, of course, be established by written or printed certificates, but good standing in Masonry may be reasonably inferred from the certificate to that effect issued by a Masonic body, with the usual precautions.

"Upon the submission of the petitions to the General Grand High Priest for his determination, he decided that certificates of dimit, or of good standing in their respective Chapters must be furnished by the petitioners as a prerequisite to the granting of their request.

"The decision of the General Grand High Priest was communicated by letter to the petitioners, through the companions who were instrumental in the matter of the petitions, and with that action the matter rests awaiting further development."

It was decided that it was not expedient for the General Grand Chapter to become incorporated, as they had no real estate.

A committee was appointed to visit and confer with the Grand Chapters of Rhode Island and Texas, and to endeavor to induce them to re-affiliate with the grand body.

Topeka, Kansas, was selected as the next place of meeting, and the time will be July 18th, 1894.

A special committee was appointed to present an appropriate jewel to Comp. Josiah H. Drummond, of Maine, P.G.G.H.P.

The ceremonials and system of lectures reported by the Special Committee on Ritual, were adopted by the General Grand Chapter "for the use of its immediate Subordinate Chapters, State Grand Jurisdictions not to be *required* to use them unless they shall severally decide to do so." A suitable cipher for the work adopted is to be prepared by the Committee and disseminated by the Grand Council.

The officers in Capitular Freemasonry are to be entitled and take rank as follows :

"In the Mark Master's Lodge, a Master, whose title shall be Right Worshipful, and a Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Secretary, Treasurer, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Master Overseer, Senior Overseer, Junior Overseer and Tyler, whose titles shall be Brother.

"In the Past Master's Lodge, a Master, whose title shall be Right Worshipful, and a Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Secretary, Treasurer, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, and Tyler, whose titles shall be Brother.

"In the Most Excellent Master's Lodge, a Master, whose title shall be Right Worshipful, and a Senior Warden, Secretary, Treasurer, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon and Tyler, whose titles shall be Brother.

"In the Chapter, a High Priest, whose title shall be Excellent, a King, Scribe, Secretary, Treasurer, Captain of the Host, Principal Sojourner, Royal Arch Captain, Master of 3rd Vail, Master of 2nd Vail, Master of 1st Vail, and Sentinel, whose titles shall be Companion.

"The Rank in the Royal Arch degree determines the rank in the Lodges, the Captain of the Host acting as Master of Ceremonies in the floor work.

"In a Grand Chapter, a Grand High Priest, whose title shall be Most Excellent, a Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, whose titles shall be Right Excellent, and a Grand Chaplain, Grand Captain of the Host, Grand Principal Sojourner, Grand Royal Arch Captain, Grand Master of the 3rd Vail, Grand Master of the Second Vail, Grand Master of the 1st Vail, and Grand Sentinel, whose titles shall be Excellent.

"Believing that any additional title would tend to detract from the dignity of the office, your Committee recommends that the title of all officers of the General Grand Chapter be Companion.

"Your Committee would further recommend that all Past Officers retain their titles."

A hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Comp. Reuben C. Lemon, of Ohio, for his invaluable services in preparing a digest of the decisions of the General Grand Chapter.

An elegant jewel was presented to the retiring G.G.H.P., Comp. David F. Day, of Buffalo, N.Y.

Comp. William H. Mayo, of Missouri, presented a report on correspondence, from which we make the following extracts:

"In reference to that portion of the General Grand High Priest's address, concerning the desirability of organic union with the Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia, we beg leave to report that such union is greatly to be desired, and, if accomplished, would prove of incalculable and lasting benefit to Capitular Masonry. We, therefore, recommend that the first four officers of this General Grand Chapter be and are hereby designated and empowered to prepare a letter from this General Grand Chapter to the Grand Chapters of the three States named, urging upon them the importance of becoming constituent members of this General Grand Body, thereby uniting and solidifying the Royal Craft of the United States of America into one common band, owing allegiance to one common head, thereby consummating an event devoutly wished for by the rank and file of Capitular Masons throughout this broad land of ours for many years past.

"And in furtherance of these ends, and in order to bring about a better understanding in the premises, we recommend that the officers before mentioned be authorized, in their official capacity, to visit said Grand Chapters at their annual convocations."

"In treating of those Grand Bodies which alone can properly be called foreign, we will say that the Grand Chapters of England, Ireland and Scotland seldom print anything concerning their transactions, and when they do, it is generally a small unbound pamphlet of a few pages, embracing the names and titles of their office-bearers, with short reports of committees by whom all their affairs seem to be managed, to the entire satisfaction of all directly concerned, and if they are satisfied, why should not we who are so far away from them be pleased with their way of conducting their Masonic affairs? Yet our active and enquiring American minds are seeking and asking for further light in this direction.

"CANADIAN PROVINCES. We now come to the consideration of the only Grand Jurisdictions who print regularly their Proceedings, and exchange, as we do, with all other Grand Jurisdictions that can, with any degree of propriety be called 'foreign,' or our reviews or reports on their transactions can, with any semblance of appropriateness be styled 'Foreign Correspondence,' and we hold that this is only done out of respect to our respective civil governments, and the political subdivisions of our continent; in these respects, and these only, are the Canadian Provinces foreign. In these days of rapid transit and universal use of electricity, whereby we are enabled to visit and converse with each other any day and any hour, they are our neighbors, as members of the same great broad-minded, God-revering, man-loving fraternity, we are brothers; we frequently visit each other, are always kindly received and hospitably entertained, thus solidifying the bonds of fraternal union which exist between us, and are growing stronger day by day, so that it requires no very great stretch of imagination, strength of foresight or predictions of a prophet to say that the day is not so very far distant when the present existing civil government and political sub-divisions of the continent of North America will undergo some very radical changes.

"And may we not reasonably hope to see, within the next decade, a consummation of General High Priest DAY's desire, viz.: 'A union with us of the Grand Chapters of all the Canadian Provinces in one organization, which might then be appropriately named the SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER OF NORTH AMERICA.'"

The officers for the next term are as follows:

Comp. Joseph P. Hornor, New Orleans, La., General Grand High Priest; Comp. George L. McCahan, Baltimore, Md., Deputy General Grand High Priest; Comp. Reuben C. Lemmon, Toledo, O., General Grand King; Comp. James W. Taylor, Luthersville, Ga., General Grand Scribe; Comp. Daniel Striker, Hastings, Mich., General Grand Treasurer; Comp. Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo, N. Y., General Grand Secretary; Comp. Arthur G. Pollard, Lowell, Mass., General Grand Captain of the Host; Comp. Joseph E. Dyas, Paris, Ill., General Grand Principal Sojourner; Comp. William C. Swain, Milwaukee, Wis., General Grand Arch Captain; Comp. Nathan Kingsley, Austin Minn., General Grand Master Third Vail; Comp. Bernard G. Witt, Henderson, Ky., General Grand Master Second Vail; Comp. George E. Corson, Washington, D. C., General Grand Master First Vail.

ALABAMA.

66th Convocation, Montgomery, Dec. 5th, 1892.

James T. Beck, G.H.P.

He mentions the death of their Grand Secretary, Myles Jefferson

Greene, who was Grand High Priest in 1872, and Grand Secretary since 1888.

The duties of the Grand High Priest were unusually light, the Chapters are in as flourishing a condition as usual; there are 42 in good standing, with a prospect of several being reinstated during the coming year.

The Rules were amended to allow a rejected candidate to apply again without waiting twelve months from the time of his rejection.

The following was adopted :—

“*Resolved*, That no Companion of this Grand Chapter shall hold a commission as representative of more than one Grand Chapter near that of Alabama at any one time.”

Comp. P. J. Pillans again reports on correspondence. Our Proceedings do not appear to have been received.

John A. McKinnon, (Selma), G.H.P.

Henry C. Armstrong, (Montgomery), G.S.

ARIZONA.

3rd Convocation, Phoenix, Nov. 16th, 1892.

George W. Cheyney, G.H.P.

In his address he says :—

“In completing the record of the official year, I regret that I cannot report a larger increase in membership, and greater activity in the work of the Subordinate Chapters. But the brevity of the record is unfortunately an evidence of what we lack. Conditions of life, and of individual and community prosperity, we admit and recognize as a most potent cause. And yet that the growth of the fraternal Orders, and interest in the proceedings, should be almost an index for material success in business life; that membership in the Lodge should be considered as one of the luxuries of life, one of the first to be curtailed in deference to financial pressure, is certainly not in accord with our purpose and intent. As brethren of a family are brought more closely together by the misfortunes of either, so should brethren of the Lodge learn not so much to lean upon as to support each other in any stress. While both present and future are rosy to us as individuals, the Lodge room and fraternal intercourse become an addition to our social pleasures; in darker times their truer purposes should appear.”

The Proceedings are very brief and of local interest only.

Comp. H. B. Lighthizer presents his maiden effort on correspondence, yet he writes like a veteran, clear and critical, and with good judgment as to selections. Our Proceedings for 1892 receive due mention. On the necessity of perfect physical requirements for the degrees of the Chapter, he says :—

“With all due deference to the opinion of our elders, we make bold to inquire, in behalf of the infant class of the ‘Mutual Admiration Society,’ if there are not already involved in the various Capitular degrees a sufficient amount of inconsistencies, not to say absurdities, without permitting the excusing by ballot the absence of the physical requirements necessary to the proper working of those degrees. As well abolish all forms and ceremonies, and follow the Scottish rite method of communication and be done with it. *Selah!*”

George J. Roskrue, (Tucson), G.H.P.

John M. Ormsby, (Tucson), G.S.

ARKANSAS.

43rd Convocation, Little Rock, Nov. 17th, 1892.

Fay Hempstead, G.H.P.

We quote the opening remarks of his address :—

"The circumstances under which we have gathered together to-day makes this, our annual reunion, one of the most notable and auspicious occasions on which we have ever assembled. It marks a new era, and a distinct epoch, in the annals of Royal Arch Masonry among us.

"In the process of time we have come at last to be congregated in our own home, and in our own particular house; and here in this noble Temple, and in this beautiful hall, made bright with the triumphs of decorative art, we have gathered around our common Altar 'to weave anew the scattered threads of Friendship, to intertwine with them golden threads from the skein of Hope,' and to offer up our devotions to the presiding genius of Freemasonry, 'whose ways are ways of pleasantness, and all whose paths are peace.'"

Two new Chapters were formed. The District assigned to the Grand High Priest for visitation embraced 17 Chapters. On the results of his visits and on the work adopted by the General Grand Chapter, as compared with their own work, he says :—

"And now, Companions, this completes the record of my round of visiting. I feel that I certainly did my duty fully therein. After all, as far as the lecturing done in my own Chapter is concerned, I have grave doubts as to the permanent and enduring good that the visit of a Grand Officer accomplishes; for the reason that when he has made his visit, which the law makes imperative, and has lectured to the utmost of his ability, and has taken his departure, nothing remains but a matter of memory, as to what he said, and how he did this and did that; and men's memories differing, the Companions are left in as much doubt and confusion as they were before he came. In my judgment it is far preferable to have an established Ritual, put in a proper cipher, intelligible only to the initiated; put one copy of this work in the hands of every High Priest, and then every Chapter will not only be independent of the instruction given by Grand Officers, but will always have ready at hand the means of officially settling any dispute or uncertain point, in language or procedure. And this subject, I hope, will receive your attention at this present session.

"And this leads me to say that during the year, I have obtained a copy of that Ritual of the work and lectures adopted by the General Grand Chapter, at its session in Minneapolis, in August, 1891. Before I received the work I was in favor of adopting it for the work of this Grand Jurisdiction, supposing it would prove to be something like our own, but after making a close study of its features, I regretfully came to the conclusion that it would not suit us in this jurisdiction, and that, even if adopted, we would hardly be able to get it worked as prescribed, so different is it from our own methods. Hence I have concluded that the best thing we could do would be to adhere to our own old work, only modifying it in a few slight particulars to exactly conform to certain essential features adopted and promulgated by the General Grand Chapter. Of this matter I will not speak further at this time and place, but will present the subject orally at another time."

It was resolved to appoint a Grand Lecturer each year to visit the Chapters and instruct them in the correct work.

The following report of the Committee on Ritual was adopted and the committee continued :—

"COMPANIONS,—Your Committee on Rituals respectfully report that they find it impossible, in the brief time this Grand Body will be in session, to decide in all the details as to what should be recommended as the Ritual of this jurisdiction.

"And, such being the case, we recommend that the obligations, signs, grip and words, of the Ritual as promulgated by the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States of America, be and are hereby required to be used by the Grand Chapter in this jurisdiction.

"And we do further recommend that a Committee of five upon Ritual shall be appointed by the Grand Council, who shall consider the entire subject of the Ritual and its custody and promulgation, and report to the next annual session of this Grand Chapter."

Comp. R. J. Laughlin reports on Correspondence and Reviews our Proceedings for 1892.

Jasper M. Pinnell, (Hope), G.H.P.

James A. Henry, Little Rock), G. S.

CALIFORNIA.

38th Convocation, San Francisco, April 19th, 1892.

Milton H. Myrick, G.H.P.

He found the Chapters in good working order and in some the work was excellent. Others receive more superlative commendation. His advice to High Priests is full of good sound common sense and it should be well weighed by all who are or desire to be at the head of Masonic bodies :—

“So far as I have had opportunity of ascertaining, there is in general an earnest desire on the part of the presiding officers of the Subordinate Chapters for the prosperity of the bodies under them; and this feeling is often participated in by individual members. It has, however, been mentioned, in some cases, that the majority of members were not as active or as energetic as might be desired. I have been asked by some of the High Priests what could be done to incite individual members to more punctual attendance and greater activity. My opinion is that the members invariably take their motive from the chair; as the High Priest moves, so moves the Chapter. The leader of a military organization first fits himself for the drill, and then goes at fitting others. He is not fit to lead until he is himself fit to be in the lead. He does not urge the others forward, and then go to sleep; but he is ever active, alert, energetic. If the followers become sluggish, he does not permit himself to be so, but he puts on double force to bring them up. So, I would say to the High Priest, Fit yourself for the work, and then fit others. Don't relax your efforts; keep at it. It may sometimes be discouraging, but don't give up nor hold back. If you suffer yourself to be dull, your whole Chapter will be dull and discouraged. If you show energy and perseverance, you will bring your Chapter up to your level. Address yourself to cultivating the best there is in yourself and in your members. Don't appeal to, nor participate in, nor permit, anything that is beneath a gentleman. This is a body of gentlemen, based on the highest principles of virtue, morality and truth. Never permit, under any circumstances, in any gathering connected with Masonry, any trifling with either virtue, morality or truth. Appeal to men's intellect, and to their good sense, and you will never appeal in vain.

“Let the High Priest become himself ‘dead-letter perfect’ in the work, and then let him study manner and style in delivery and execution. The language of our ritual is choice and expressive; let it be so spoken as that every sentence, every word, shall convey their full meaning, with force and effect.

“I venture the assertion that there is no Chapter in this State which has not at least one man who can not only learn but do the work. Let him do, on all occasions, the best there is in him, and he will stir up and lead his whole Chapter; or, if there be any not willing to be so led, let them stay away—for the Chapter would do better without them. These suggestions are not the suggestions of a novice—I speak them after an experience in the Order of forty-three years. Simply learning the ritual and saying it over, is not sufficient—it must be spoken with emphasis and spirit, as if the words had meaning.

“It has grown into quite a custom to have provided in Chapters either a ‘banquet’ or a ‘collation.’ In visiting Chapters, I have invariably requested that on such occasions, ‘banquets’ should be omitted—saying that the Chapters could find other more profitable ways for spending the funds. A ‘collation,’ however, is not only acceptable, but is frequently of practical benefit, especially where members travel, as they sometimes do, miles to a meeting. These collations are the occasions for friendly interchange of courtesy and good feeling. You are always more kindly disposed towards a man with whom you have eaten.”

The report on correspondence is in the body of the Proceedings. In his review of Canada for 1891, he says :—

“The reports of the ‘Grand Superintendents of Districts’ is quite a feature of the Canada Proceedings and display great zeal and a great amount of work on the part of those officers. In many cases, practical suggestions are made, which, if acted upon, will inevitably result in great benefit to the Craft.”

The work was exemplified in the Mark and Arch degrees.
The Committee on Address say :—

“Your Grand High Priest has remarked in his address that ‘the laws heretofore established have been so just and their administration so harmonious as to leave you but little to do except to review the acts of your officers and make suggestions as experience and thoughtfulness may indicate.’

“We congratulate the Grand Chapter on their arrival at this happy consummation, and offer as an established truism the saying that in communities where the least legislation is needed, there the greatest happiness prevails.

The Grand High Priest impresses us, however, that although he has had but little to do in an official way by the exercise of his executive functions, he has given much thought to the duties of his office, and his excellent address is teeming with good and

wholesome advice relating to the practical application of the many excellent professions of Royal Arch Masonry."

The following report on life membership was adopted :—

"*San Francisco Chapter, No. 1*, presents the following amendment to its By-Laws :—

"Amendment to Article VI, Sec. 5 :—

"Any member of this Chapter who has paid into its treasury twenty years' dues, shall, in consideration thereof, be entitled to and receive a certificate of life membership."

"This amendment was reported by the M. E. Grand High Priest without recommendation. Your committee have carefully considered the same, and report as follows :—

"While there can be no question as to the power of the Chapters to make such amendments, we believe it to be bad policy. The creating of privileged classes in the Chapters, would have a tendency to create confusion among the members if the principle was extended to all Chapters ; many of them would have but few members to pay dues. While a Chapter may have funds to-day to justify life membership, we know not what the future may be, and should a Chapter, from any cause, become embarrassed in its financial affairs, those who were compelled to pay the expenses would find them so burdensome that as a result they would withdraw, and the Chapter have to surrender its charter.

"Your committee, therefore, recommend that the proposed amendment be not approved."

A circular is to be issued to the Chapters urging them to co-operate in establishing a Mason's Widows' and Orphans' Home.

William B. Davis, (Sacramento), G.H.P.

Thomas H. Caswell, (San Francisco), G.S.

COLORADO.

18th Convocation, Denver, September 22nd, 1892.

William W. Roller, G.H.P.

On the State of the Craft, he says :—

"I congratulate the Grand Chapter upon the intelligence, zeal and earnest efforts of the officers of the subordinate Chapters, and also upon the able and enthusiastic support and encouragement given them by their Companions. This support has borne fruit in the large growth and development of the Chapters during the year, and would prophesy a bright and successful future.

"The work accomplished during the year has been the largest since the organization of the Grand Chapter, and I am informed that the material has been selected with care, taken from among the best and noblest citizens of our State ; that only good work, true work, just such work as will strengthen and beautify our grand old Masonic edifice, has been chosen. This was owing, in part, to the Knights Templar Triennial Conclave in Denver. We hope this healthy condition in Capitular Masonry in our jurisdiction may continue, that the new zeal will inspire only renewed and continued activity in the future, which it is only reasonable to predict."

It is rather a remarkable fact that death has not once entered the circle of their Grand Officers since the organization of the Grand Chapter in 1875.

The Grand High Priest decided that it is not proper to carry one team in the R. A. degree through to the lecture and then a second team, giving the lecture to six or more at the same time. We cannot see any harm in that practice. It certainly saves a great deal of time and does no possible injury.

We quote another of his decisions, which seems proper :—

"*Question*—A Companion claims that he was made a Royal Arch Mason at Mount Holly, County of Union, Arkansas, in 1864, while in the Confederate service—there was no Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter held during the last years of the war ; the building, together with the records, was burned, so the membership of the Chapter was never sent up to the Grand Chapter, he never visited his home Chapter, and, etc. Can he be admitted as a visitor or not ? If not, what steps can be taken whereby he can be reinstated to membership ?

"Answer—The Companion is not a member of any Chapter. He has not retained his membership; has not dimitted nor paid dues, consequently he can hardly be in good standing in any Chapter. A Companion who has taken no pains for twenty-eight years to establish his standing as a R. A. M., has undoubtedly forfeited all claims to Masonic recognition.

"The Companion must apply to his home Chapter to establish his membership—if such chapter is in existence. If such Chapter is defunct, he can apply to the Grand Secretary of Arkansas, who will issue a certificate of his standing, which will answer every purpose of a dimit."

The report on Correspondence by Comp. Ernest Le Neve Foster is an able compilation of the Proceedings of forty Grand Chapters, including Canada for 1892. We are sorry to find that he approves of Grand Chapters tying their hands by refusing members because they are not affiliated with a lodge, and then wondering why the subordinate Chapters are not more prosperous.

Thomas Nicholl, (Denver), G.H.P.

George T. Cooper, (Denver), G.S.

DELAWARE.

25th Convocation, Wilmington, January 18th, 1893.

Francis L. Carpenter, G.H.P.

They are prosperous and united. The Chapters have been busy, and the material selected will reflect honor on the Craft.

Jewels are to be presented to all Past Grand High Priests.

The Grand Chapter of Victoria was recognized.

Comp. V. V. Harrison reports on correspondence, and notices our Proceedings for 1892.

The 25th anniversary of the formation of the Grand Chapter was celebrated in grand style, with lots of speeches, music, and a magnificent banquet. From the eloquent address of Comp. Edgar A. Tennis, the Grand High Priest of Pennsylvania, we make the following extract:—

"When the kindly invitation of your Grand Secretary to be present at this 25th anniversary of your Grand Chapter reached me, I felt inclined at once to accept the invitation, not only for the pleasure it would give me personally, but because I have the honor to be the presiding officer in the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, from which Grand Old Commonwealth in 1765 your State of Delaware first received Masonic Life. When Lodge No. 5 on our Pennsylvania Register was constituted at Cantwell's Bridge in your State, and which Lodge passed under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Delaware at its Constitution in 1816. Shortly after, in 1818, your Grand Chapter was organized independent of all other authority whatsoever.

"You kept pace with the advance of Freemasonry for a season, but finally under the pressure of the anti-Masonic excitement your Grand Body passed out of existence, and the fire upon the Altars of a few constituent Chapters alone attested your abiding faith in the beautiful and impressive lessons of Royal Arch Masonry. Later on, in 1868, you became a constituent of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and have from that time to the present been faithful to your obligation of fealty and allegiance to that Body, and here again do we as Pennsylvanians claim close relationship, since we gave to your General Grand Chapter her first Grand High Priest, Thomas Smith Webb, a member of Harmony Chapter No. 52, in the city of Philadelphia. It is a matter of which we are justly proud that to Pennsylvania Delaware is indebted for its Masonic life and its Royal Arch life, and that, although not a member of your General Grand Chapter, it furnished the inspiration that prompted Thomas Smith Webb in Compilation of the Rituals of Royal Arch Masonry now used by that Grand Body.

"We rejoice with you to-day, and show by our presence our love for you, and our regard for this ancient institution, in which we have a common interest. We recall the many influences at work in society tending to division. Men and women seem divided as the rocks. Caste is everywhere separating societies into sections, which have little in common save their common prejudices and their mutual distrust. The same tendencies that result in the division of society seem also to divide the Church. Christian charity fails to spread the cement of love and affection. These evils are not modern, but have existed since that little company met in the Garden of Eden. To remedy

these conditions, societies and organizations of various kinds have in every age been formed. They existed among our Anglo-Saxon forefathers. They flourished in Rome before the Casars, and on down through the ages to our present day. They have greatly helped to bring men into harmonious relations, and to unite their membership by a new, a peculiar, and an important tie, but towering above them all in antiquity, in influence, and adaptation to this work, is the Society, Ancient and Honorable, of Free and Accepted Masons. Its vitality is remarkable. It has withstood persecution, and outlived all forms of popular prejudice; it has built halls, hospitals and schools. It has expended millions in unostentatious charities; it has provided care, and comfort, and protection for the widow and the orphan."

George W. Andrews, (Wilmington), G.H.P.

James H. Price, (Wilmington), G.S.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

26th Convocation, Washington, Dec. 14th, 1892.

Thomas F. Gibbs, G.H.P.

In the opening paragraphs of the address of the Grand High Priest, we find a statement of their condition, and some good advice and instructions as to perfecting the knowledge of the Companions, after the degrees have been conferred:—

"With the steady growth of our beautiful city there has come to us an increase of membership. Some of the Chapters have received a large number of petitions, and all have enjoyed a fair share of prosperity.

"The officers of the several Chapters have exhibited commendable zeal in the discharge of their duties, and the degrees have been rendered in a manner calculated to impress upon the candidates the beauties and importance of the lessons inculcated in our Ritual.

"But I am impressed with the belief that we do not pay sufficient attention to the instruction of our members after they have received their degrees. Not that we fail in this particular in comparison with other jurisdictions, judging from the many applicants we have for examination from various sections of the country, but we might improve on present methods for the benefit of all concerned.

"We should have in each Chapter a Committee of Instruction. They should form classes, and have regular meetings for imparting information to those who seek the knowledge which will enable them to visit other jurisdictions, and pass an examination creditable to themselves and the Chapters in which they hold membership.

"The whole system might be under the general supervision of the Grand Visitor and Lecturer, and would, in my opinion, be popular and very advantageous.

"The officers are well taught and faithful, but this is not enough. The individual members should share in the advantages of thorough instruction.

"A rivalry in the Chapters to see which could produce the best-informed members would be worthy of great praise."

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the organization of the Grand Chapter was celebrated by an excursion to Marshall Hall, with a "plank shad dinner" (whatever that may be), and the occasion was very enjoyable.

The following report of the special committee on the subject of a Masonic Home was adopted:—

"The undersigned, to whom was referred at our annual Convocation the subject of a Masonic Home, respectfully submit that this, and all similar enterprises, should originate in and be managed by the Grand Lodge.

"In this jurisdiction we have the St. John's Mite Association, an incorporated society, organized several years ago for the purpose of supplying destitute widows and orphans from other jurisdictions, who may be residing within our own, with food, fuel and clothing. We have also the Masonic Board of Relief, which, after thorough investigation as to worthiness, grants relief to transient applicants.

"Members of our own jurisdiction, and their dependents, requiring aid, are assisted by the organizations immediately interested.

"By reference to the records of our Grand Lodge, we find that the lodges alone have, in twenty years, paid out for charity over sixty-five thousand dollars, the greater portion of which was expended on brethren, Masonic widows and orphans not belonging to our jurisdiction.

"Your Committee refer to the expenditure simply to illustrate what has been and is being done by our lodges.

"The Chapters, and other Masonic organizations, have been and are equally liberal in their appropriations for the same objects.

"What would be the result of a union of labor and appropriations for charitable purposes by the different Masonic organizations is a question—when the proper time arrives—worthy of consideration.

"At this time, however, the Committee are of the opinion that no action should be taken by the Grand Chapter, but recommended that, in the event of the Grand Lodge inaugurating a movement providing for a Masonic Home, this Grand Chapter will co-operate to the fullest extent."

The titles of officers were amended to conform to the regulations of the General Grand Chapter.

Comp. W. R. Singleton presented another of his excellent reports on Correspondence. His plan for getting better results in the Chapter is a good one :—

"It is our opinion that the true method of increasing the interest in Capitular Masonry is to create a strong desire among the brethren to increase in knowledge of Masonry. Let the most intelligent members of the Grand Chapter inform *themselves* upon the symbolism of the Royal Arch degree in connection with the third degree, and, in their several lodges of Master Masons, point out the great necessity there is, in our system, to proceed onward and learn the lessons taught in the Chapter, and thus show to the Master Masons that there is more light to be obtained whereby they can realize the symbolism of what they have already attained to. In our experience we have found such a course of great advantage to the craftsmen. The members of the Chapter, who had not theretofore seen anything of value in Capitular Masonry, would be inspired to inform themselves, and take a greater interest in the Chapter work."

Canada for 1892 receives kindly mention. In his review of Indiana, he says :—

"Now, it is well known that Webb had received at Albany all the then known degrees of the 'Rite of Perfection' of twenty-five degrees.

"It is our *conjecture* that, when he undertook to establish the Chapter system in New England, he divided the one degree into three parts; as was subsequently done by others of the A. A. R. when they made the 30th, 31st, and 32nd degree out of the 25th, which was a completion of the Rite of Perfection, or degree of the Kadoshim. It is also well known that, when the Red Cross degree was formulated, it was by selecting certain portions of the 15th and 16th degrees, and so combining them as to make one consistent degree."

Harrison Dingman, (Washington), G.H.P.

Lewis G. Stephens, (Washington), G.S.

GEORGIA.

70th Convocation, Macon, April 27th, 1892.

James W. Taylor, G.H.P.

They must be having a regular boom in Capitular Masonry in Georgia, as the Grand High Priest granted no less than fifteen dispensations for new Chapters. One of these is at Tallulah Falls, where there is no lodge, but it is a noted watering-place and has many flourishing lodges around it. The Order is in a more flourishing condition than ever before and the outlook is more propitious.

The Committee on the address believe that the zeal of the Grand High Priest has been one of the prime factors in securing their present prosperity.

The following resolutions were passed :—

"Resolved, That the Ritual be recommitted to the committee, and they be authorized to perfect the same, have it printed, and submit it to the Grand Council for its approval; when by them adopted, to be promulgated to the Subordinate Chapters."

"Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to have five hundred copies printed of our Grand Chapter Proceedings of early dates, which are now missing from our Library."

We regret to learn that owing to the illness of Comp. Wm. Abram Love, the Report on Correspondence was not completed.

James W. Taylor, (Luthersville), G.H.P.

Andrew M. Wolihin, (Macon), G.S.

ILLINOIS.

43rd Convocation, Chicago, October 27th, 1892.

Jacob Krohn, G.H.P.

Prosperity prevails. Two new Chapters were formed. The Grand High Priest gives an account of his official visitations and concludes it as follows:—

"It was my purpose to visit many other Chapters in this jurisdiction, but owing to the great flood of the spring and to the hot weather prevailing afterwards I was denied that privilege and pleasure. My experience as Grand High Priest has fully convinced me that there exists an urgent necessity for the appointment of a Grand Instructor of the work,—an official whose duty it shall be to visit Subordinate Chapters as the Grand High Priest shall designate. My visits throughout the Jurisdiction, as far as I was able to extend them, accomplished, I am convinced, much good to Capitular Masonry. If every Chapter in the Jurisdiction could thus be reached from time to time by the Grand High Priest or by the Grand Instructor, such an impulse to Masonic enthusiasm would be imparted as would be felt throughout all our borders. I therefore wish to express the hope that this Grand Convocation will constitute such an office and to appropriate one thousand dollars, or such an amount as may be requisite, for its equipment."

The following report of Comp. John M. Pearson on the Grand Chapter of Victoria was adopted:—

"Your Committee on Correspondence respectfully reports having received a circular letter from Melbourne, Victoria, conveying intelligence of the formation of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Victoria, asking fraternal recognition.

"The Grand Lodge of Victoria has been duly recognized by the Grand Lodge of Illinois, and its principal officers are also the principal officers of the new Grand Chapter; yet we do not know how many, if any, of the Subordinate Chapters in the territory have declined to unite in this organization; especially, if the two Chapters chartered by the Grand Chapter of Canada, are included among those uniting. Your Committee therefore recommends that no action be taken at this Grand Convocation."

A very kindly notice is given of our late Comp. David McLellan, with expressions of sincere sympathy.

In order that better and more complete opportunities may be afforded to Chapters requiring instruction, the following resolution was adopted:—

"*Resolved*, That whenever it shall come to the knowledge of the Grand High Priest that any Subordinate Chapter requires instruction in the ritual of the Grand Chapter, and are financially unable to bear the expense of the same, he is hereby authorized to appoint some competent Companion to visit said Chapter, and under his direction instruct them in the ritual, and shall receive as compensation for such services the sum of four dollars per day and travelling expenses, which expense shall be paid by the Grand Chapter."

The Illinois Masonic Orphans' Home received a donation of five hundred dollars.

Comp. John M. Pearson has an excellent report on correspondence, (104 pages), in which our proceedings for 1892 receive a large share of his attention, with numerous extracts. We are glad to know that Comp. Pearson is in favor of the use of substitutes in conferring the R. A. degree, and also that he approves of our remarks on the subject to public appearances.

Richard T. Higgins, (Vandalia), G.H.P.

Gil. W. Barnard, (Chicago), G. S.

INDIANA.

47th Convocation, Indianapolis, Oct. 19th, 1892.

Edward J. Church, G.H.P.

The Royal Craft is enjoying a measure of prosperity that is highly gratifying. One new Chapter was formed.

The following report was concurred in :—

“ Your Committee on Grievances and Appeals submit the following report :—

“ GRIEVANCE *VS.* PEACE AND HARMONY.

“ This is a case that was before the Grand Chapter at the last annual convocation, and at this session we again find that the appellant, Grievance, has utterly failed to present or make out a case. We recommend that the committee be dismissed, and the cause remanded without prejudice.”

A resolution to adopt the Ritual recommended by the General Grand Chapter was laid on the table.

The report on Correspondence (173 pages), is by Comp. Thomas B. Long. It is his tenth annual report, and it is written with his usual ability and discrimination. Canada for 1892 has a good notice. At the end of his report proper, Comp. Long has an interesting historical disquisition on the origin of the usage of requiring official obligations to be administered to the Officers of the Grand Bodies before assuming the duties of their offices. In his review of Wisconsin, he has the following remarks :—

“ Past Grand Presiding Officers are undoubtedly amongst the most valuable of attendants at the sessions of the several Grand Bodies, and that they are not considered permanent members in that jurisdiction is extremely surprising. Their great experience makes smooth many a ‘ rough and rugged road ’ of legislation ; and their authorized—aye, required—presence is as encouraging as it is useful. Amend your Constitution to conform to the General Grand Constitution by all means, Companion Swain ; even if you do not go to the extent reached in ours, which makes any ‘ member in regular standing of a chartered Chapter subordinate thereto ’ eligible to hold any office in the Grand Chapter. Similar provisions prevail in the Constitution of the Grand Council and the Grand Commandery. In that of the Grand Lodge, however, exception is made as to Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Warden, of whom it is required that they shall have ‘ been duly elected, installed, and presided over a subordinate Lodge.’

Comp. Long says that it is superfluous for the Chapter to adopt a funeral service and that the Blue Lodge Ceremonial is all the funeral service there should be in Ancient Craft Masonry, and that a Chapter should not appear as a distinct and separate organization in a Masonic funeral procession.

Edward S. Ross, (Wabash), G.H.P.

William H. Smythe, (Indianapolis), G. S.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

3rd Convocation, Tahlequah, August 18th, 1892.

Robert W. Hill, G.H.P.

The Chapters have prospered in their work, and Royal Arch Masonry has proved its power in the dissemination of Masonic principles. One new Chapter was formed.

The following Constitutional amendment was adopted :—

“ No Companion shall be eligible to the office of Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe or Grand Lecturer until he shall have passed the Chair of some regular Chapter in this or some friendly Jurisdiction.”

1893.

4th Convocation, Ardmore, Feb. 9th, 1893.

DeForest D. Leach, G.H.P.

A new Chapter was formed at El Reno in Oklahoma. A very good commencement has been made towards acquiring a library.

In the absence of proper information, the recognition of the Grand Chapter of Victoria was deferred.

There are ten Chapters in this jurisdiction. Three of them did not send their returns. The others report 201 members.

The following resolutions were passed :—

*“Resolved, That P.G.H.P. Robt. W. Hill, be requested to procure a working Manual for the Chapter, to be used in connection with the adopted work of this Grand Jurisdiction.” * * **

“Resolved, That, when prepared, an edition of 500 copies of the Chapter Manual shall be printed for the use of the Grand Chapter, and a sufficient number of copies be furnished to each subordinate Chapter for its use ; the Code of By-Laws to be printed with the Manual.”

Comp. Robert W. Hill has a brief report on correspondence, in which Canada for 1891 finds a place.

Walter H. Evans, (Tahlequah), G.H.P.

Joseph S. Murrow, (Atoka), G.S.

IOWA.

39th Convocation, Council Bluffs, Nov. 17th, 1892.

William Wilbraham, G.H.P.

The past year has been an unusually prosperous one for Capitular Masonry in this Jurisdiction. All the Chapters have paid their dues. Their financially good standing is in a great measure due to the efficiency of the Grand Secretary. The Grand High Priest granted one dispensation for a new Chapter and refused three other applications. On the issue of special dispensations, Comp. Wilbraham has the following excellent remarks as to the impropriety of rushing candidates through at railroad speed :—

“In one instance a dispensation was desired permitting the Chapter making the request to elect several teams upon the night their applications were received, and to confer all the degrees upon the said several teams on two or three successive evenings. The writer stated that the matter was quite urgent, so much so that if the Chapter did not get them at the time stated they could not get them at all. In reply to my inquiries, I was informed that six brothers were very anxious to receive the Chapter and Commandery degrees within a given time to enable the said brothers to take the Shrine. Probably some, if not all, of these brothers have been Masons for years, with ample opportunities for receiving the degrees, and now for the first time make application therefor. Apparently the only reason they had for becoming Chapter members was that by this route alone they could reach the Shrine. Had the dispensation been granted and the degrees conferred, what knowledge of Chapter Masonry would these brothers have gained? What impressions received, and how long would they remain members of their Chapter after having been called upon to pay dues? And what, may I ask, would the Chapter conferring the degrees have gained beyond the initiation fee? Companions, this is not as it should be. If the degrees are worth receiving they are worth study ; and my observation teaches me that those who have best learned the lectures, and most thoroughly studied the sublime truths taught therein, are the ones who best appreciate them.”

This action of the Grand High Priest received the approval of the Grand Chapter by the adoption of the report on the Committee on the address as follows :—

“The refusal of the M. E. Grand High Priest to enable candidates to use the Chapter as a step-ladder to pluck some fancied good from another body, and then be in readiness to withdraw upon the first demand for dues or help is commended. Let those seeking light from us know that we are not a lamp set in a dangerous and darkened way merely to light the hurrying traveller to some temple beyond, and then to be blown out as useless. Our lights are to reveal our own moral teachings by history and traditions ; and may all future applicants with similar reasons meet with like refusals.”

In the same report we find the following remarks on the abolition of the Grand Representative system :—

“ We think that the law of this jurisdiction should be changed, and the office of Grand Representative discontinued. It is useless ; it is without reason from the ceremonies or traditions of our Craft. And if it be desirable to have a class into which to place those Companions we may delight to honor, it would be more direct and to the purpose to have a roll prepared for those meriting it. The Grand Lodge of Masons is supreme and Independent, and there might be a faint reason for a representative to a foreign body, as other Grand Lodges in one sense are. But we are fellow-members of the Supreme Grand Chapter of the United States, and why should it be thought necessary to continue diplomatic corps between us ? It is as if the State of Iowa should conclude to send a minister plenipotentiary to the State of Illinois, or a consul to the port of Chicago, or of Omaha ; or, the comparison would be more fitting and exact if the various subordinate Chapters should appoint Chapter representatives between themselves. There would not be enough Companions to go around.

“ These Grand Representatives are ornamental only ; they are never made use of in any matter of business among the Grand Chapters. In fact the term of our Grand High Priest would have to be lengthened if he ever reached the end of anything in this roundabout way. It is contrary to the direct business methods of Americans of this day, whether in Masonic affairs or in the labors of the world.”

Comp. Thomas R. Ercanbrack has another of his high-class reports on Correspondence (95 pages). Complimentary mention is made of our Proceedings for 1891 and 1892, but he does not like our very fine type. Neither do we, but the ruling powers will have it so.

In his review of Maine, he says :—

“ The spirit of the west is adverse to what is called vested rights, unless good cause can be shown for the continuance of the investiture. The doctrine of ‘ ancient lights ’ was first overruled by the Supreme Court of Iowa, and it was in Des Moines, Iowa, where the federal judges, Miller and Love, pronounced the judicial edict that reversed all cases forbidding the bridging of navigable streams, in consequence of which nearly a hundred bridges span the Mississippi. If a Maine man must teach us what a ‘ quorum ’ is, we rather accept the precepts of Thomas B. Reed than Josiah Drummond. As to the last objection raised, the point is visionary and speculative. At the last convocation of the Grand Chapter of Iowa there was an even hundred members present who never held office in the Grand Chapter, and who know themselves to be competent to run any Grand Chapter, and confidently expect to be Grand High Priest some day.”

He greatly favors the elimination of every word that can be spared from official titles.

Clinton S. Fletcher, (Atlantic), G.H.P.

Alf. Wingate, (Des Moines), G.S.

KENTUCKY.

77th Convocation, Louisville, October 18th, 1892.

Charles H. Fisk, G.H.P.

After quoting the regulation of the General Grand Chapter upon the subject of the Royal Arch Apron, Comp. Fisk says :—

“ Thus it will be seen that the regulation of the General Grand Chapter upon this subject is clear and mandatory. It behoves the Grand Chapter to give attention to this subject, and see that it provides for its officers and members the Apron demanded by law, and see that Royal Arch Masons are suitably clothed. The attention of Chapters is earnestly called to the necessity for the proper clothing of their officers and members. The expense will not be great, but, whether great or small, the necessary clothing should be promptly secured. This Grand Chapter must set the example of obedience to law. Had not the finances of this Grand Body been so low, I would have required, by official order, the Grand Secretary to have ready at this Convocation the proper Apron for the officers and members thereof. I think the plan adopted in some places, and particularly on the other side of the ocean, of every Royal Arch Mason procuring, owning and caring for his own Masonic Apron, a wise one. Whatever may be the condition of the treasury of the Chapter, there is no Companion who cannot afford to buy and own his own Apron. Let it be tried.

“ If this cannot be done, let each Chapter present to each Companion, when he is exalted, a Royal Arch Apron, and require him to put on the same, and thereafter ever to

be clothed therewith when in the Chapter. Lamb-skin is the proper material—the only material—for a Masonic Apron. Let it be used. Silk, satin, cotton and linen are inappropriate—have been prohibited. Nothing can be substituted for the lamb-skin. Nothing other than lamb-skin should ever be used.

“I trust this Grand Body will, at this Convocation, direct the purchase of Royal Arch Aprons in sufficient numbers to clothe every officer and member thereof, and that it will enact the proper regulations for the proper preservation of the same, and hereafter see that the regulations are strictly enforced.”

The Grand High Priest believes that a Grand Visitor or Lecturer should be appointed, and that proper instruction would result in a large increase of membership. He also says that proficiency in the degrees should be required from all candidates, both before and after the final degree is conferred. Two new Chapters were formed.

The following report was adopted :—

“Your Committee on Finance on that part of Grand High Priest's address, recommend that a committee be appointed to ascertain and report at the next meeting the cost of 150 regulation aprons. That a special committee be appointed to consider that part of the address relating to exemplification of work, and inspection of Chapters, and report at the next meeting. That the recommendation, as to the publication of the decisions of the General Grand Chapter, be approved. The Committee recognize the propriety of the bestowal of a Past Grand High Priest's jewel upon each retiring Grand High Priest, but, in the present financial condition of the finances of the Grand Chapter, cannot recommend its adoption at this time. Your Committee are of the opinion that it is not expedient to demand any special character of surety of those required to give bonds, other than one of undoubted solvency.”

The Report on Fraternal Correspondence (98 pages) is again by Comp. James W. Statton, an experienced and able reviewer. Canada, for 1892, receives a most favorable notice. In his review of Quebec, we find the following comments on the order in which the higher, or rather the supplementary, degrees, should be taken :—

“We believe that the natural course to be pursued by those who have attained to the third degree, the summit of Symbolic Masonry, and who desire to proceed further, is to take the degrees in the order laid down in the American system, the Chapter first, the Council next, and the Commandery last; and then, if there is a desire to take more on their dish, proceed with legitimate Scottish Rite Masonry. But above all, and over all, let the degree-hunters never lose sight of the first and greatest claim upon them, which is Symbolic, or Blue Masonry. Everything that is practiced in Masonry is to be found in Blue Masonry, all the others are simply elaborations and adornments of the Symbolic Temple. We admire the beauties of the so-called higher degrees, whether of the American System or the Scottish Rite, but our first and greatest love is for Blue Masonry, as taught in the three degrees of Symbolic Masonry.

“So far as the search for Truth and the Lost word is concerned, we do not regard that the American System has any advantages over the Scottish Rite System on that line. The ceremonies from the 4th to 14th Degree of that system certainly furnish food for ample reflection worthy of the intelligence of any man, and is much more elaborate than those of the American system. But the American system is better adapted to the masses of those who desire to advance beyond the Third Degree. Besides, it is the only general system practised in English-speaking countries. On the other hand, the Scottish Rite is the only system practised in nearly all the Latin countries.

“No harm can come to a seeker of light if he has possession of both systems, if he has the money to take him along, and the brains to comprehend their teachings. When we make use of the term ‘American System,’ we mean that system which is recognized and in general use in English-speaking countries, or as is designated by some the York Rite.”

Campbell H. Johnson, (Louisville), G.H.P.
Henry B. Grant, (Louisville), G.S.

LOUISIANA.

46th Convocation, February 14th, 1893.
T. J. Heard, G.H.P.

On the death of Comp. Hornor, he says :—

"To me has fallen the sorrowful duty of announcing to you the sad tidings of the death of our Most Excellent Companion Joseph Potts Hornor, General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, which occurred at his residence in this city, on January 24th, 1893. That 'death loves a shining mark,' is brought forcibly to our minds in this visitation. The esteem in which M. E. Comp. Hornor was held by the Fraternity is witnessed by the fact that he has been by them exalted to the highest stations within their Grand Bodies.

"When I received notice of his death, which I did through the newspapers, I at once directed our Grand Secretary to prepare a circular announcing his death, and to transmit a copy to each of the Grand Chapters with which we hold Fraternal relations."

Two new Chapters were organized during the year.

The following resolutions were adopted :—

"*Resolved*, That the work of the General Grand Chapter is licensed for twelve months in this jurisdiction, and that the procurement and dissemination of the same be made the duty of the M. E. Grand High Priest." * * *

"*Resolved*, That the sum of two hundred dollars be and is hereby appropriated by this Grand Chapter for the services of a Grand Lecturer for the ensuing year. Said lecturer to be appointed by the Grand High Priest."

The following resolutions were presented by the Chairman of Correspondence, Comp. Herman C. Duncan, but the record fails to show what was done with them :—

"WHEREAS, The matter of the appointment of representatives of one Grand Chapter near another needs the adoption of some common regulations, therefore

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Chapter of Louisiana unites with her sister Grand Chapters in the following declarations, viz.: A representative must be a Past High Priest and affiliated in one of the jurisdictions concerned; his appointment shall be during pleasure, but absence from an Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter to which he is accredited, unexplained to the satisfaction of the appointing power, shall be deemed a resignation. It is declared the duty of Grand Secretaries to examine the reports of Grand Chapters other than their own, and to bring to the attention of their Grand High Priests the existence of all vacancies in the office of representative, caused by death, resignation, removal from the jurisdiction, or other causes.

"*Resolved*, That the name of no companion shall be inserted in any Chapter hereafter issued, unless his dismission from the Chapter of which he is at the time a member be first filed with the Grand Secretary.

"*Resolved*, That the question of the recognition of the Grand Chapter of Victoria be deferred until after the receipt of the proceedings of the Convention which organized it."

George J. Pinckard, (New Orleans), G.H.P.

Richard Lambert, (New Orleans), G.S.

MAINE.

67th Convocation, Portland, May 3rd, 1892.

Charles I. Collamore, G.H.P.

The death is recorded of their loved and venerated Grand Secretary, Ira Berry, in the ninetieth year of his age. We give the Grand High Priest's brief history of a most remarkable life :—

"September 20th, 1891, the long and useful life of our venerable Grand Secretary IRA BERRY, came to a peaceful close. He was buried on September 23rd. As your representative I attended his funeral, and assisted in the ceremonies, which were under the direction of the M. W. Grand Lodge.

"Bro. Berry was initiated in Ancient Landmark Lodge, in Portland, in March, 1853. He was Secretary of that body from 1854 to 1865, and was elected an Honorary Member in 1868. Exalted in Mount Vernon R. A. Chapter, No. 1, Portland, July 19th, 1853, and was its Secretary from 1859 to 1860. Received the Royal and Select degrees in Portland Council, No. 4, December 18th, 1855. He was Knighted in Portland Commandery, K.T., December 7th, 1854, holding various offices for several years; he was Recorder from 1863 to 1867, and was elected an Honorary Member in 1873. He received the Scottish rite degrees to the 32° in Portland in 1863.

He was elected Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter in May, 1854, and served as such until his death, Sept. 20th, 1891, 37 years and 5 months. He was also the Recording Officer of the Grand Lodge, of the Grand Commandery, and of the Grand Council from May, 1856, until his death, 35 years and 5 months.

"Companion Berry was born in New Durham, N.H., Sept. 23rd, 1801. He learned the trade of printer, and followed that business many years, being connected meanwhile with several newspapers.

"He assisted in building the first telegraph line between Boston and New York, and was the first operator and manager of the Boston office. He was an ardent lover of flowers and music.

"I wish to add my testimony—after many years of official connection with Companion Berry—to his unfailing kindness, courtesy and good nature, and frequent valuable assistance, always promptly and willingly rendered.

"In response to the official announcement of his death, there has come up from all parts of the country, and the Masonic world, from Grand, subordinate bodies and from individual Masons, such an universal expression of sorrow and sympathy, as few—very few—Masons can ever receive."

At the annual meeting of the Grand Council in October, all the members of the Council and the Grand Lecturer, and all the District Deputies, except one, were present. The day was spent in a thorough review of the work and ritual, and the meeting was of much profit.

The Grand Officers visited extensively, and make full reports of the condition of the Chapters.

The following report on the Diploma plate was accepted:—

"To your Treasurer and Assistant-Secretary was committed, at the last convocation, the subject of having our old diploma plate retouched, or the purchase of a new one. It was found upon examination that the plate now used was engraved by a man who died in the year 1835, so that it must be nearly or quite sixty years old. Though so long in use, it was thought by the engraver that it could be restored in good shape for about \$30, and your committee had it retouched and steel-faced at a cost of \$32."

The report on correspondence (112 pages), is again by Comp. Josiah H. Drummond, the oldest member of the corps, and *facile princeps* in all that pertains to our department. In his notice of Canada for 1891 he has some further remarks on public installations, but that subject is getting a trifle stale.

In his review of District of Columbia, he says:—

"We do not concur with him in his opinion that Philip Eckel first introduced the Select degree to the Craft. The first record of the conferring of the degree is November 9th, 1790, when Moses Cohen conferred it on Abraham Jacobs who in turn conferred it in Georgia in 1796 and 1802. The schedule of the degrees published by the Southern Supreme Council in 1802 names the Select degree. Cohen got his powers from Francken, and apparently the degree with others.

"Nor do we concur in the opinion that the certificate which Cross had was genuine. We caused the photograph to be taken, which Comp. Singleton has. We examined the document from which it was taken; *on its back it purported to be a copy*; we submitted the signatures with several specimens of the genuine signatures of Eckel and Niles to many experts, and all unhesitatingly pronounced them spurious; in 1826, the Grand Chapter of Maryland issued a circular denying in effect that any such powers were ever granted to Cross as the alleged certificate contained. In 1847 Comp. Jos. H. Stapleton expressly denied that any such powers had been granted to him. So Comp. Singleton ought to modify his statement that he has 'proved' the genuineness of those signatures.

"We have been informed that the book containing this document and letters has disappeared from the library of the Grand Lodge of New York.

"We have had in our possession a ritual purporting to have been made in 1803 in South Carolina, and undoubtedly genuine.

"The first record of conferring the two degrees together was made in 1818, and in 1819, Cross, *of his own motion*, changed the form of his warrants from 'Select Masters' to 'Royal and Select Masters.'

"We have not space for further discussion of this subject, but will refer to the History of Cryptic Masonry, by Comp. J. Ross Robertson, of Toronto, Canada.

"Comp. Singleton re-affirms his views concerning the relation of Chapters to Grand Chapters. He may be correct in relation to those few jurisdictions in which the modern form of Masonic government prevails; but in the other jurisdictions, even if we admit that Grand Chapters got their powers by surrender from the Chapters is correct, they surrendered *all their powers*, and invested the Grand Chapters with absolutely

supreme power; if the subordinates made the first constitution, they gave the power of re-making it at pleasure to the Grand Chapter; the Chapter must be presumed to have intended to do what they *did* do, and when they invested Grand Chapter with supreme power, they neither expressly nor tacitly reserved any powers. We do not, however, agree with Comp. Singleton as to the manner in which the Grand Chapters got their powers, but that is of little consequence, the practical question is as to the powers which they actually have."

Albert M. Penley, (Auburn), G. H. P.
Stephen Berry, (Portland), G. S.

MARYLAND.

95th Convocation, Baltimore, November 8th, 1892.

Wm. H. Clark, G. H. P.

His address contains some good advice:—

"During the past year harmony and order have existed among the Companions, and, with a single exception or two, the same zeal and interest in the work has been exhibited as in the year preceding. I had sincerely hoped that my prediction of universal improvement in the work as well as the life and prosperity of the various Chapters would have been obtained, but it seems that those hopes have been frustrated,—I am sorry to believe,—by the apparent indifference of several of the elective officers of certain Chapters. I have no sympathy in common with the idea, held by some, that honors should be worn easily, or, in other words, I am of the opinion the Companion who accepts *any* position in the Chapter at the hands of his fellows, should never be content to wear those honors without putting forth an *honest* effort and a *continuous* one, for the advancement of the interest and welfare of his Chapter. Otherwise, I do not believe that he is either bringing honor to himself or credit to the Chapter which has created him. If, after his election or appointment he has determined that he will pursue a course of apathy and neglect, better that he never should take the vow of office. Better by far that he should never allow his own *small ideas* of greatness to obstruct the path of deserving Companions, whose efforts would prove beneficial in advancing all the interests of the Chapter, whilst his occupancy might, and no doubt would, prove decidedly disadvantageous."

The proceedings are very brief and call for no special notice.

A proposal to declare as suspended in the Chapter all members who remain unaffiliated with a lodge for six months, was rejected.

Comp. E. T. Schultz presented his seventeenth report on correspondence and it is as excellent as usual. Our Proceedings for 1892 receive due notice.

W. Nash Young, (Frederick), G. H. P.

George L. McCahan, (Baltimore), G. S.

MASSACHUSETTS.

At the Quarterly Convocation held March 8th, 1892, the design was adopted for a beautiful Jewel to be presented to each of their seven Past Grand High Priests, and new Regalias were procured for the District Deputy Grand High Priests, at an expense of \$50 per set.

One Jordan was expelled for wilfully misstating his place of residence and thereby acquiring the degrees in a clandestine manner.

At the Quarterly Convocation held June 7th, 1892, the seven P. G. H. Priests received each a Jewel. In the beautiful response by Comp. Thomas Waterman to the presentation address, we find the following paragraphs:—

"I have been at some pains, during the last few days, to study the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter from its organization in 1798 to the present time. I find that in the earlier days robes, mitres and crowns were not confined to the Subordinate Chapters and used solely to add dignity and impressiveness to the language of our beautiful ritual, but that the officers of the Grand Chapter, when sitting in annual or quarterly Convocation, were robed, mitred and crowned, and doubtless looked as imposing as a college of cardinals or an ecumenical council."

"As early as 1805 these costumes were procured, and were worn not only in secret but on public occasions, notably at the consecration of King Solomon's Chapter, at Charlton, in 1815, when the profane world were permitted to gaze on the Grand Royal Arch splendor of that period, as displayed in a procession in the open day.

"Whatever remnant there may have been of all this glitter and tinsel was probably destroyed by fire, upon this very spot when our Masonic apartments were burned, in April, 1864. Since then our Convocations have been marked more by civil simplicity and wise counsel, as becomes a legislative and judicial body, rather than by gorgeousness of apparel. Nor do I intend by this sentence to reflect in the faintest degree upon the sound work of the fathers who laid the foundations of our structure so strong and deep.

"While the Grand Chapter, on several occasions, have voted silver pitchers and pieces of plate to retiring Grand Treasurers who had gratuitously performed their duties long and well, I find no record of a testimonial being presented to a Past Grand High Priest by authority of this organization. As the records express it, they were voted 'the thanks of this Grand Chapter for valuable and efficient services.' A magnificent and appropriate jewel was given to M. E. Comp. Alfred F. Chapman, in 1874, but it had its birth in the warm hearts of the individual Companions of the Commonwealth, and was paid for out of their own pockets.

"This night, then, is a unique and memorable one. The Grand Chapter is pleased to regard our humble efforts in official station as satisfactory to them and worthy of recognition, and has decorated us with a jewel which, so far as I am aware, is unexcelled for its skilful workmanship, Masonic significance, and emblematic originality. It reflects credit both on this Grand body and on the designer and 'scientific worker in metals.' Be assured that we shall each and all of us wear this emblem modestly but proudly, feeling certain that the good wishes and fraternal remembrance of the twelve thousand members of the Royal Craft of the old Bay State are beaten into every atom of the gold and every molecule of the precious stones.

"The circle typifies eternity—without beginning and without end; the triple interlaced triangle the unity of the ever-present, all-knowing and all-powerful God; the superimposed breastplate (which was intended to remind the Jewish high-priest of his duties to the twelve tribes of Israel) should in like manner teach us that the six times twelve Chapters of this Commonwealth should be ever near and dear to us; and the triple tau, from which the jewel hangs by a three-fold chain, is a significant Royal Arch symbol designating those of our ancient brethren who worshipped the true name of the Deity and who were marked for salvation.

"I never witness the presentation of a testimonial to a past-presiding officer of any organization, Masonic or otherwise, without recalling the French maxim, '*no-lesse oblige*,'—nobility compels. Exalted station, with or without subsequent reward, demands increased industry and devotion."

94th Convocation, Boston, Dec. 19th, 1892.

The first business transacted was the exemplification of the work in all the degrees by the Grand Lecturer and his assistants.

The Grand High Priest, Comp. J. Albert Blake, in his address states that they have had a busy and prosperous year and their finances are in a healthy condition. One new Chapter was formed.

The following resolution was adopted :—

"Resolved That upon the retirement from office of a Grand High Priest the Grand Secretary be instructed to place his engraved portrait in the printed Proceedings, and that during the intervening years the portraits of the living Past Grand High Priests that have not already appeared be inserted, according to their seniority, one in each year."

Comp. Seranus Bowen presents an excellent report on correspondence. We are glad to find that he is an opponent of forced affiliation with a lodge in order to retain chapter membership. He brings into notice a point in favor of his position which we have not seen before, and it is a good one :—

"It seems to us that each Masonic body ought to stand or fall by its own merits. A membership that stays in Lodge, Chapter, or Council only in order that it may keep in some other body is a membership that we believe is worse than useless. It seems like working at the wrong end of the line. Make your bodies attractive and you will draw a membership that can be retained. The incentive to make them so is lost when you depend on the attractions afforded by some other body to keep your members. This is not theory, but we find that it works well in Massachusetts, where we have no forced membership in any of the bodies of the Rite, and where there is a much smaller per-

centage of non-affiliated in either Lodge, Chapter or council than in many of the jurisdictions where the membership seems to be retained 'by force and power.'

"We believe that a brother ought to retain his affiliations all along the line, and experience shows that this end is best attained by making the bodies sufficiently attractive to him to make him wish to do so 'of his own free will and accord.'"

Canada for 1892 receives a short notice.

He is in favor of the use of substitutes, and he is also in favor of public installations, occasionally.

J. Albert Blake, (Haverhill), G.H.P.

Seranus Bowen, (Boston), G.S.

MICHIGAN.

44th Convocation, Detroit, Jan'y 17th, 1893.

John F. Barrows, G.H.P.

He decided that a Master Mason, who had lost the thumb of his right hand, was disqualified to receive the Chapter degrees. Two new Chapters were formed. The Grand High Priest was much gratified at the deep interest taken in the work in the Chapters he visited. On the new work, he says:—

"The Grand Council met immediately after adjournment of Grand Chapter and discussed the matter of the duties imposed upon them by Grand Chapter for correcting the work as heretofore adopted, and promulgating the same through the proper channel to the subordinate Chapters.

"Your Committee were not long in discovering that this work was much more far-reaching than at first contemplated. A sub-committee was therefore appointed to proceed with the work, reporting from time to time to the Grand Council. This committee consisted of Companions Conover and Clarke, and their work was most faithfully performed.

"The changes necessary to make a perfect work for use of subordinate Chapters was found to be much more extensive than your Committee, at first contemplated, and it was very late in the year before they could call the work complete, and as many changes were recommended the Grand Council decided to present the complete work to Grand Chapter for their approval or rejection, having full confidence that the work has had the closest attention and study, and, if adopted, it will be freed of many errors, clerical and others, that have crept into the work, and they feel assured that the additional instructions given will prove satisfactory to all."

The report of the Ritual Committee was adopted unanimously.

Recognition of the Grand Chapter of Victoria was deferred for further information.

The Grand Lecturer held 46 Schools and instructed 97 Chapters during the year. His salary is \$600.

The sum of \$1,000 was donated as a free-will offering to the Michigan Masonic Home.

Comp. William P. Innes was absent through illness and the Grand Chapter expressed their deep sympathy. In preparing the report on Correspondence (239 pages), he was assisted by Comp. Allan G. Bruce. Canada for 1892 receives a good notice.

Charles R. Bugg, (Detroit), G.H.P.

William P. Innes, (Grand Rapids), G. S.

MINNESOTA.

31st Convocation, St. Paul, October 11th, 1892.

James M. Martin, G.H.P.

The opening remarks of Comp. Martin are excellent:—

"I greet you to-day as the accredited representatives of more than four thousand Royal Arch Masons. If this means nothing but that there are so many men now living

in Minnesota who have taken this degree, then is Capitular Masonry in Minnesota a failure. A utilitarian, practical age demands that Masonry prove its right to exist by showing its usefulness. This demand is just and right.

"If the world is not better for the Masons that live in it, if this State of Minnesota is not improved by the fact that over four thousand of her citizens are Royal Arch Masons, then is Capitular Masonry useless. If Masonry is not a benefit to mankind, it has no excuse for continued existence. From this judgment we cannot escape. But I am persuaded that the verdict of the well informed will not be against our Order. Whatever failure there has been to better humanity must rest with us as individuals—our failure to live up to the principles that we profess, to practise the tenets that we hold.

"The honest student of sociology may well be dismayed as he looks out over human society and sees that, notwithstanding the benign influence of the church, religion and many noble lives in the world, sordid, grasping selfishness seems so largely to permeate human society. Into the midst of this discordant mass of good and evil we call human society, comes an institution that here and there carves out at least a few rectangular spaces 'with greatest length from East to West,' within which peace, harmony and union prevail; friendship, morality and brotherly love are taught; fidelity, justice and truth are impressed; faith, reverence and devotion are urged; fortitude, temperance and zeal are enjoined; charity, sympathy and relief are inculcated. This we claim for Royal Arch Masonry.

"If we, as individual members of this sublime institution, have done our duty, if we have carried in our hearts, exemplified in our lives and shown by our deeds that love for mankind, that fidelity to every trust, that reverence for our Divine Creator, that the ceremonies of our Chapters are intended to inspire, then has Capitular Masonry not been a failure."

The Grand High Priest made nine visits and 32 visits were made by District Visitors. The reports from all over the State are most encouraging. The placing of copies of the ritual in the hands of all High Priests has resulted in practically uniform work. He opened three new Chapters. We quote his decisions:—

"*First*—The fact that a Companion is 'very anxious' to be exalted, is not such a 'case of emergency' as would warrant the use of substitutes to confer the Royal Arch degree. An advanced brother, being called to leave the State in care of an invalid brother, to be gone for a long, but uncertain, length of time, the Chapter having no other candidates on the way, is such a 'case of emergency.'

"*Second*—The question of incorporating subordinate Chapters not having been legislated upon by this Grand Chapter, no Chapter should undertake to effect an incorporation of itself until special provisions therefor are made by this Grand Body.

"*Third*—A Companion stricken from the rolls for non-payment of dues cannot be reinstated by reconsidering the motion to strike off, though he mailed his check the day the action was taken, it not having been received until after the closing of the convocation.

"*Fourth*—No appeal lies to the General Grand Chapter from a decision by a subordinate Chapter in this jurisdiction in a case of discipline.

"*Fifth*—A Companion being in the preparation room acting upon a committee of examination, is informed that a ballot on a petition for degrees is being taken, and is at his own request excused from voting, but without knowing the names of the candidates being ballotted for; *held*, he is not thereby precluded from thereafter objecting to the advancement of one of such candidates.

"*Sixth*—Where Chapters have not concurrent jurisdiction of territory, the 'point equidistant' named in the by-laws, that separates their respective jurisdictions, must be measured upon an air line, and cannot be determined by tracing roadways or consulting railroad time cards.

"I report this because the question was twice asked and a contrary conclusion urged."

There is a very large amount of good sense in the remarks of Comp. Martin on the necessity of having proper furniture and correct emblems. The effect of the whole ceremony is spoilt when, as is often the case, an apology has to be made because the symbol does not correspond to the teaching:—

"There is another phase of this subject that seems to me is not unworthy of the attention of the efficient High Priest. I refer to the harmony of the furniture and symbols with the language of the ritual and the lessons intended to be taught by them. Much work, otherwise excellent, is marred by this lack of attention to consistent harmony. If the ritual describes an article as white, a gilded or black one should not

be used. If the candidate is called to view a 'triangular plate of gold,' a plate of the proper shape, made of something that at least resembles gold, should be shown to him. If the work calls for certain letters or a full sentence upon an article of furniture, those letters and that full sentence should be there. I might extend this enumeration to the cubical stone, sanctuary, incense, mercy seat, red crowns, etc., but I forbear.

"It surely detracts much from the teaching for a High Priest to say to an intelligent candidate, 'our altars are triangular—or *should be*—our jewels are triangular,' but this one I am wearing, by mistake, was made *circular*.' Ignorant manufacturers are not alone to blame. We should not buy or use such wares."

On this subject the Grand Chapter took prompt action :—

"The committee to whom was referred that portion of the address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest relating to certain articles of furniture used in conferring the Royal Arch degree, submitted their report, which, on motion of Comp. J. B. West, was adopted, with the understanding that all new furniture be made to conform to the recommendations of the committee and that such furniture now in use, which in the judgment of the District Visitor is unsuitable, be discontinued."

A special committee was appointed to inquire into the advisability of regulating the incorporation of subordinate Chapters. Our advice would be not to allow it at all.

In the death of their Grand Chaplain, "Father" Reuben Wells, in the 90th year of his age, they have lost one of their most esteemed members. The record of the public positions which he held, outside of Masonry, is a most remarkable one :—

"He was a Justice of the Peace fifty-one years of his life ; he was inspector and superintendent of schools thirty-one years ; he was town supervisor seven years ; county commissioner two years ; a member of the New York legislature from 1849 to 1855 ; was state senator from Fillmore county in 1859 and 1860 ; was county attorney of that county from 1862 to 1864 ; was mayor of the village of Preston from 1871 to 1874 ; was court commissioner of the county from 1874 to 1892.

"Though most of these offices were of minor importance, they aggregate in years one hundred and twenty-one, which is truly marvellous. The duties of the various offices he held were performed by him with marked ability and fidelity. The fact that he held so many offices for so many years is a stronger indication than can be told in words of the respect, confidence and esteem in which he was held by those who knew him."

Our proceedings were not received.

Isaac P. Durfee, (St. Paul), G.H.P.

Thomas Montgomery, (St. Paul), G.S.

MISSISSIPPI.

44th Convocation, Vicksburg, Feb. 10th, 1892

P. M. Savery, G.H.P.

On the state of the Craft, he says :

"In response to the challenge, 'Watchman, what of the night?' we say, Peace reigns among the Royal Craft throughout all lands. In some portions of this Grand Jurisdiction, prosperity unexampled attends the mystic workmen, and the Sons of Truth have brought up acceptable ashlar for the building. In other places it seems that impenetrable darkness envelopes the members of the Capitular Rite. Their zeal and fortitude has not been sufficient to travel the rough and rugged highway, and we fear they have in some localities lost their Chart, and are wandering hopelessly and aimlessly among the ruins of some other city than Jerusalem."

A new Chapter was formed at Booneville.

Comp. Savery attributes the apathy prevailing in some quarters to ignorance of the adopted work, and non-payment of dues. If the dues are not paid, the chapter cannot get the required robes or appropriate furniture, and without these necessary appurtenances, the degrees lose their impressiveness.

In the very able report of Comp. Frederick Speed on the meeting of the General Grand Chapter, we find the following remarks :

"The attendance was as large as upon any former occasion, and embraced many of the most distinguished Masons of the country, and some from foreign jurisdictions. The proceedings were characterized by the dignity and deliberation which so well befit this, the most conservative and enlightened body of all Freemasonry, and which has deservedly won for it the title of 'The Masonic Senate.' There can be no doubt as to the usefulness of a General Grand Body which confines itself to its proper sphere of action, and does not arrogate to itself the province of interfering with the domestic relations of its constituent bodies. The objections which I have so frequently urged against them do not now apply to the General Grand Chapter, owing to the limitations contained in its own Constitution, which in effect makes it but a league of sovereigns, and not a supreme governing power, such as the Grand Encampment of the Templars is. Limited to the field it has chosen for itself, without power of discipline, censure or admonition, it performs the functions of a Masonic Congress, and brings together representative Masons from all over the land, who, through their consultations and deliberations, do more to effect the unification of Masonry than it is possible for a body claiming supreme and autocratic powers to accomplish by its edicts and commands, accompanied with threats of discipline. It is an illustration of the truth of an old couplet which used to be found in children's books, that—

"Hearts, like doors, ope' with ease
To very, very little keys,
And, don't forget that they are these,
I thank you, sir, and if you please.

And, like the Grand Encampment, it is a small body, and its presence in a city like Minneapolis, does not tax the hospitality of its citizens to the verge of bankruptcy. There was a time, not many years since, when the General Grand Chapter sought to enlarge its powers, and when we combatted that tendency with all the vigor of which we were possessed. The danger line has been crossed, and so long as the conservative spirit which now marks its deliberations shall characterize it, there will be no reason to fear encroachment upon the true sovereigns in Royal Arch Masonry—the Grand Chapters. It creates and preserves a uniform system of jurisprudence, customs and usages, and protects the ritual from innovations of a dangerous character, and intensifies and strengthens

"The silver link, the silken tie,
Which heart to heart, and mind to mind,
In body and in soul can bind'

the 141,901 Royal Arch Masons in the United States, in one grand union of good men and true."

The list of Grand Representatives is to be revised every three years.

The Grand High Priest is also author of the report on correspondence. Canada for 1891 receives due notice, but he has got us rather mixed up with the other Robertson.

P. M. Savery, (Tupelo), G.H.P.

J. L. Power, (Jackson), G.S.

MISSOURI.

45th Convocation, St. Louis, April 28th, 1892.

Ira V. McMillan, G.H.P.

The past year has been a prosperous one, one marked with peace and an absence of all contention. The Grand High Priest mentions the death of our Comp. David McLellan. He appointed Comp. D. F. MacWatt as their Representative near Canada in place of Comp. McLeod Moore, deceased. He visited a Chapter in Kansas City, where the M. E. M. degree was conferred in full "Oriental costume," which is thus described :

"There were present about three hundred Companions. The impression made during the ceremonies would be difficult to describe. It was no variation from the work in manner and form as taught in this jurisdiction. But the costume, designed to represent the personages and scenes portrayed, was such that it seemed to be the universal opinion of those present, that while they had been great admirers of this degree, in reality they had never understood its full import and impressiveness, and the method adopted and practised was well worthy of imitation."

The expense of maintaining their Masonic Home average \$531.61 per month for 52 inmates, or \$10.22 for each inmate per month. This is considerably less than it was supposed it would be and shows economical management. The Grand Chapter donated \$500 towards the erection of a proposed Hospital and Sanitarium in connection with the Home.

Comp. William H. Mayo has an excellent report on Correspondence, with a very elaborate Table of Statistics, which must have taxed his time and patience very considerably in its compilation. Canada for 1891 receives a brief notice. On the requirement of signing the By-Laws, he says:—

“As to whether the signing of the By-Laws is an act necessary to constitute membership, we say emphatically, ‘No.’ We don’t believe in signing the By-Laws at all. The By-Laws were adopted by the lodge as a lodge. The By-Laws may be altered or repealed, in which case the old signatures would go for nothing, unless the members were called in to resign. It is convenient to have the signatures of the members, which can best be accomplished by having a ‘Roll of Members.’”

John R. Parson, (St. Louis), G.H.P.

William H. Mayo, (St. Louis), G.S.

MONTANA.

2nd Convocation, Butte, Oct. 12th, 1891.

Richard O. Hickman, G.H.P.

The Order is in a healthy condition. It was decided not to publish the Proceedings until 1892.

1892.

3rd Convocation, Deer Lodge, Sept. 19th, 1892.

Joseph A. Hyde, G.H.P.

A new Chapter was formed at Missoula. On the state of the Craft, Comp. Hyde says:—

“The condition of Royal Arch Masonry in Montana is vitally strong and fairly prosperous. Our Grand Chapter was not formed until we had ten firmly established and strong Chapters, and so, without incurring a debt or imposing burdensome taxation, we have reached a point where, after providing for our reasonable wants and a fair compensation for our Grand Secretary, who has thus far received nothing for his services, we can still say that we have money in our treasury.

“We believe we can truthfully say that every one of our Chapters is in good working shape, that the officers are well posted in the Ritual, men of sense, substance and influence, and that they are gathering in good material for the overseers to fashion—just such work as is wanted for the Temple.”

The Ritual provided by the General Grand Chapter was adopted and it is to be used exclusively.

It was made a Standing Resolution that the portrait of the retiring Grand High Priest be published with the Proceedings of each annual Convocation.

Anthony H. Barrett, (Butte), G.H.P.

Cornelius Hedges, (Helena), G.S.

NEBRASKA.

28th Convocation, Geneva, Dec. 14th, 1892.

John B. Dinsmore, G.H.P.

The address of the Grand High Priest gives full particulars of all his official acts. R. E. Comp. J. Ross Robertson was appointed as their Representative near Canada. Some of the officers of Chapters do not

comply with the regulations as to recording marks, examining candidates before advancement, making returns, etc., and Comp. Dinsmore insists that if they have a law on these matters, it should be obeyed, or discipline should be exercised.

Some of the remarks of the Grand Lecturer will be found quite applicable to other jurisdictions :—

"Many Chapter officers whom I have met are not proficient as workers—if they ever memorized their work it is wonderful how quickly they have forgotten it. There appears to have been a decided neglect of even trying to learn the lectures; and among those elected and appointed to office are found many who fail to properly perform their part, either in conferring degrees, or in opening and closing ceremonies.

"There are Chapters that have little vitality—apparently do not make effort to do the work before them; frequently fail to hold regular meetings for want of a quorum; and when assembled, hurry through with what *must* be done, losing sight of the great lessons taught by Capitular Masonry, and in conferring the Royal Arch Degree, go 'to such an extreme as to despoil the degree of its solemn features, and make it in reality a roaring frace.'

"Too many 'look on now and then when a degree is conferred, and soon weary of that'—too many make of the Chapter a stepping-stone only to higher degrees. By these remarks I do not mean to say that a majority of our companions are idle workers, but that we have drones among us enough to be noticeable, and they do affect our Chapters in an unhealthy way.

"I have found in the Chapters visited, officers and companions who are anxious to bring their work up to a high standard, but two or three officers, or members, cannot alone do all that is needed to make a healthy-working Chapter; the members must 'hold up the hands' of their officers, assisting them by active work and kind words, both in and out of the Chapter."

A new codification of the law was adopted.

The following resolutions were passed.—

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be directed to procure suitable hangers, with ribbon, for the jewels of the officers of this Grand Chapter, and that the collars (which have done duty so long) be destroyed by fire." * * *

"*Resolved*, That the use of the work promulgated by the General Grand Chapter is hereby authorized at the option of the several Chapters after said work is revised by the Grand Council, assisted by the Grand Lecturer."

They have no law on the subject of public installations. We hope they will keep it so.

The report on correspondence (104 pages) is by Comp. Charles J. Phelps. Forty-three Grand Chapters, including Canada for 1892, are reviewed in an able manner.

Robt. E. French, (Kearney), G.H.P.

William R. Bowen, (Omaha), G.S.

NEVADA

19th Convocation, Reno, June 13th, 1892.

C. W. Hinchcliffe, G.H.P.

The past year has been fairly prosperous, 69 degrees being conferred as against 16 for the previous year.

The Grand Chapter of Montana was recognized.

The following resolution was passed :—

"*Resolved*, That an applicant for the Chapter Degrees shall be a Master Mason in good standing, affiliated with some lodge. He shall be whole and sound, not deformed or dismembered."

Comp. Frank Bell condenses the report on correspondence into 28 pages. This beats the record. Our Proceedings for 1891 receive kindly mention.

Albert Lackey, (Gold Hill), G.H.P.

Chauncey N. Noteware, (Carson City), G.S.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

73rd Convocation, Concord, May 17th, 1892.

Horace A. Brown, G.H.P.

On the state of the Royal Craft, he says :—

"The year has been uneventful, save in such ways as commonly fall to our human condition. A good degree of prosperity has been experienced by the various Chapters, promoted by the general harmony that has prevailed, and by due attention to the wholesome rules and regulations, which, by long usage, have become the established law of this ancient Craft."

The proceedings are brief and call for no special notice. A reprint of the early proceedings of the Grand Chapter from its organization to 1867 was ordered.

Comp. Albert S. Wait presented another of his excellent reports on correspondence. He says the declaration of the General Grand Chapter, that Chapter membership should be dependent on lodge membership, is binding only on Chapters working directly under the General Grand Chapter, and is not at all binding in jurisdictions where Grand Chapters exist. We are glad to notice that he does not approve of this regulation.

Canada, for 1891, receives most kindly mention.

In his review of Maine, he has a long argument about the formation of Grand Chapters, and, when two such giants as Comp. Drumm and Comp. Wait get a "little misunderstanding," it is discretion on the part of the smaller fry to keep out of the way. We give the conclusions of Comp. Wait on the subject discussed :—

"Now, we think we hazard very little in expressing the belief that there was never a Grand Chapter organized except by a constituency of Chapters, acting through their representatives, and by them authorized for the work ; and we say further that for the High Priests, Kings and Scribes of Chapters to assemble and attempt to form a Grand Chapter, without the grant of authority from their respective Chapters, whether with or without the sanction of the General Grand High Priest, would be, and, we have no doubt, would be everywhere regarded as an unmitigated outrage upon the rights of their Chapters, and their work would be, in the most unqualified sense of the terms, without validity, null and void. The formation of a Grand Chapter is the legitimate work of the constituency of Chapters, and of no other authority whatever, and it has never been regarded or treated otherwise."

A question upon which there is considerable difference of opinion is whether or not a Mason, who has become physically defective after his initiation, can be eligible to receive the subsequent degrees. On this subject Comp. Wait has the following remarks in reply to Comp. Schultz, of Maryland :—

"As to the right of advancement, we have not been so fortunate as to make ourselves clearly understood. We will try again : We hold that a party having received the first degrees in Masonry, is, for the purposes of advancement, no longer subject to the rule of physical qualification ; that, remaining worthy, he is eligible to the subsequent degrees, notwithstanding he may, by misfortune, subsequently have received a defect of person such as, if possessing it before initiation, would have disqualified him. In this sense, and no other, have we intended to claim for such brethren the right to receive the degrees of the Chapter. Whether the Companions choose to admit them to those degrees is a different question entirely. What we intended to claim was that, in case the Companions so elect, there is no law of Capitular Masonry which denies them the right to admit to the Chapter degrees a brother having become thus physically imperfect. As we understand Companion Schultz's view, it is that a brother becoming physically defective, after receiving the degrees of the lodge, has, for that reason alone, *no right to apply* for the Chapter degrees, and the Chapter, for that reason alone, has *no right to receive* his application. We recur to the subject here only to endeavor to make ourselves fully understood. The reason for our views we have stated before with sufficient fulness, and do not care to restate them here. We truly regret that upon this question ourselves and our esteemed Companion of Maryland are so far apart."

It is doubtless a hardship that a brother should not be able to advance in Masonry because he has had the misfortune to lose a limb after his initiation, but still we think that a candidate for any degree should be physically capable of complying with all the requirements of that degree. The general good of the Craft must govern.

Horace A. Brown, (Concord), G.H.P.

George P. Cleaves, (Concord), G.S.

NEW YORK.

96th Convocation, Albany, Feb. 7th, 1893.

J. Leavitt Lambert, G.H.P.

Official relations were established during the year with the Grand Chapter of Scotland. Efforts were also made to effect an exchange of representatives with the Grand Chapters of England, Ireland and Michigan, but without success so far.

From the valuable report of the Grand Secretary we take the following information as to the condition and work of the Chapters in this large and important jurisdiction :

"As compared with a like report made last year, the foregoing statement shows an increase of 111 exaltations, 38 affiliations, 51 restorations to membership, 50 dismissions 8 expulsions and 70 deaths, a decrease of 12 suspensions ; the net increase being greater than in any year since 1874.

"Adding the net gain of 804 for the past year, to the registered membership heretofore reported, and also ten gained by the correction of several chapter registries during the year, gives 17,685 as the number of affiliated Royal Arch Masons under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter, on December 27, 1892, a gain of 814 as compared with a like report submitted at the last annual convocation. These figures will be changed very little as a result of the examination of the returns not yet received.

"Of the 184 chapters making returns for the year, 112 show an increased number of members, varying in degree, the greatest increase in any case having been 78; 58 chapters report a decreased number of members, the largest loss in any case having been 35. In 11 chapters the gain and loss of members were equal, and 3 report neither gain nor loss.

"One hundred and fifty-six chapters conferred all of the degrees, 10 conferred only a part of the series, 5 did no work, but affiliated and restored companions, and 13 did not confer any degrees, nor add to their membership in any way ; in fact all of them decreased in number, some of them largely.

"Of the entire number of chapters, 52 have a membership of less than 50 ; 78, from 50 to 100 members ; 21, from 100 to 150 ; 21, from 150 to 200 ; 4, 200 to 250 ; 4, from 250 to 300 ; and 4 from 300 to 350. One chapter has a membership of 384, and one of 610. The smallest number of members in any chapter is 21.

"The returns for the past year indicate general prosperity, yet it is the fact that a number of chapters are in a precarious condition, constantly losing ground, numerically and financially, and must ere long be numbered among those that were once honored constituents of the Grand Chapter, but now extinct.

The Governor of the State, Comp. Roswell P. Flower, and his wife, were "At Home" to the Grand Chapter, and the members to the number of 250 availed themselves of the opportunity to pay their respects to His Excellency.

In relation to the action of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia in joining the General Grand Chapter, the following resolution was adopted :

"*Resolved*, That as one of the oldest constituents of the General Grand Chapter, the Grand Chapter of New York heartily welcomes the Grand Chapter of West Virginia into the Confederacy of Grand Chapters of the United States, and expresses the hope that the fraternal union thus fittingly consummated will prove of essential service in the promotion of the general interests of Royal Arch Masonry in this country."

The officers of the Grand Chapter and a large number of Royal Arch Masons attended the dedication of the Home at Utica in October, 1892.,

and were the recipients of many attentions from Oneida Chapter. In appreciation of these courtesies, a valuable testimonial was ordered to be presented to Oneida Chapter.

The report on correspondence (237 pages), by Comp. George J. Gardner, is a most extensive and elaborate review of the proceedings of 53 grand bodies. Canada for 1892 receives more than favorable attention, and a large number of extracts are given from our proceedings and reports. We are glad to find that he approves of our remarks in favor of the use of substitutes and against public displays.

In his notice of Georgia he well says :

"He had 'granted a number of dispensations to elect and install officers at a time other than that required by the Constitution, they having been prevented by Providential causes, etc.' Among all the varied excuses rendered for non-conformity to the requirements of the Constitution, this is an exceptional one. We think the offence will be more ascribable to neglect of man than to a thwarting by Divine Providence."

J. Leavitt Lambert, (Hoosick Falls), G.H.P.

Christopher G. Fox, (Buffalo), G. S.

NORTH CAROLINA.

44th Convocation, Winston, June 7th, 1892.

Benjamin F. Briggs, G.H.P.

Capitular Masonry has made steady and satisfactory progress ; numerous accessions have been made to the ranks and much interest has been manifested in the work. Their only unsatisfactory condition is financial. Comp. Briggs himself advanced the funds necessary to pay the arrears of dues to the General Grand Chapter. Five Chapters were revived and resumed work with good prospects.

The Constitution was amended imposing a per capita tax of fifty cents. This will improve their finances. Thier old tax appears to have been \$15 for each Chapter irrespective of the number of members.

Comp. James Southgate presents a capital plan for the attainment of honorary or life membership. It is something new and looks quite feasible :—

"This has been freely discussed by the reporters, some few favoring, but much the larger number opposing. Your Committee can be classed with the latter, and have so expressed ourselves in several reports. The only way to solve the question in our judgment, is for the Lodge or Chapter to require an amount of money to be deposited with the Treasurer, and that placed at interest, which interest will pay dues and can be so appropriated. If the Chapter wishes to confer the honor upon the old and faithful member let it signify it by appropriating from its own Treasury this endowment sum to carry interest. Suppose the dues are \$2.00 per year, then it will require at 6 per cent. (the usual interest) the sum of \$33 $\frac{1}{3}$. This can be paid over to the Treasurer to be invested for the benefit of the Chapter. If the Brother is not able to endow his own dues, and the Chapter treasury will not admit of the appropriation, then let the members make it up by subscription, and thus show the Companion that they value his services to Masonry and wish to reward him, not only by an empty honor, to the detriment of their treasury, but show their appreciation by giving of their means to bestow upon him an honorable discharge of all future obligations to the Chapter. This may be done by issuing a card, setting forth the fact that he is endowed for life with an acquittal from the payment of dues. At his death either donate the endowment bond to his family, or if they do not need it, let another Companion receive the benefit by being placed on the Honorary Roll. By this method the finances of the Chapter are not impaired, and if all who insist upon life membership will adopt this endowment bond plan the whole difficulty will be removed. That is, we think so, but there may be some objections. We throw out the idea for discussion."

On the difficulty of obtaining uniformity in the work, Comp. Southgate says :—

"Uniformity of Ritual will never be obtained through the General Grand Chapter, and it can only be expected to apply to Chapters subordinate to the General Grand

Body. Each State has its own Ritualist, who knows (?) he has the work in its purity and perfection, and until each Grand Chapter decides to accept some one Ritual independent of the objections of its own Ritualist, uniformity can never be had. We are not agreed even upon the essentials, and we despair of ever living to see the day when the same capitular language shall be spoken from Maine to Texas, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans. It is like the interpretation of Masonic law and usage. The minds of men differ, and unless all will assent to be governed by one tribunal of last resort, from which there can be no appeal, there can be no uniformity."

Daniel P. Mast, (Winston), G.H.P.

Horace H. Munson, (Wilmington), G.S.

We regret to learn of the death of Comp. Donald W. Bain. He was re-elected Grand Secretary at this meeting but died in the November following. He was Grand Secretary since 1875 and was highly esteemed by many outside of his own State as well as by his more intimate companions.

NORTH DAKOTA.

3rd Convocation, Grand Forks, June 29th, 1892.

Francis Ingalls, G.H.P.

Our R. E. Comp. W. G. Bell, of Winnipeg, who is their representative near the Grand Chapter of Canada, was present and received a cordial welcome.

The past year was one of unusual prosperity to the State and its beneficial results were felt by the Chapters. Two new Chapters were formed.

Their financial condition does not at present admit of the publication of an extended report on correspondence, but the Grand Secretary hopes to have one ere long. The Finance Committee recommend its publication hereafter, its length to be proportioned to the amount available for this purpose.

Leonard W. Gammons, (Lisbon), G.H.P.

Thomas J. Wilder, (Casselton), G.S.

NOVA SCOTIA.

23rd Convocation, Amherst, June 7th, 1892.

William Crowe, G.H.P.

Out of the fourteen Grand Officers, only six were present at the opening, probably because the meeting was not held in Halifax. There is no Chapter in Amherst.

The Grand High Priest decided that an applicant for the Chapter degrees must be a subscribing member of a lodge; also that substitutes cannot be used in conferring the Royal Arch Degree: in both of which rulings we think he was wrong.

They have eight Chapters in Nova Scotia, two in Prince Edward Island, one in Newfoundland and one in Cape Breton Island. Total membership, 608; increase, 74.

The death is announced of Comp. George T. Smithers, their former Grand Secretary, who was well and favorably known throughout the Capitular world.

William B. Alley, (Truro), G.H.P.

Alexander Ross, (Halifax), G.S.

OHIO.

76th Convocation, Zanesville, September 28th, 1892.

William W. Savage, G.H.P.

On their Masonic Home, he says :—

"I am informed by the Grand Secretary that some little opposition has been manifested by some of the subordinate Chapters to the payment of the per capita tax to aid in the support and maintenance of the Masonic Home.

"I am not informed as to the Chapter or Chapters from which this opposition comes; but I trust that the representatives of any Chapter that may feel aggrieved on this account will appear before the Committee on Grievances during our present sitting, and that said Committee will accord them a patient hearing, for I feel persuaded that there is not a *Royal Arch Mason* (much less a Chapter) within this Grand Jurisdiction who would for a moment hesitate to contribute the small sum of twenty-five cents per annum to the relief of an aged and infirm Mason, his widow, or orphan child; and for this reason I feel constrained to believe that whatever opposition there is arises from some misunderstanding, and does not come from a desire to withhold support to this monument of charity, which should be, and I sincerely believe is, the joy and pride of every true Mason in Ohio."

Probably the opposition comes from being *compelled* to pay the tax. In our jurisdiction we have a number of very charitable brethren, who would never hesitate to give freely for relief, but who think that our work of benevolence can be carried on in a better way than by building an expensive Home; and they would naturally feel aggrieved if they were forced to contribute to carry on this work in a way of which they do not approve. It would be better if these institutions could be kept up by voluntary contributions, or if an endowment could be secured before building, sufficient to guarantee its maintenance.

One of the decisions of Comp. Savage discloses a novel state of affairs :—

"A High Priest writes that two Master Masons of Liliputian dimensions have petitioned his Chapter for the degrees; that they are so undersized as to be properly termed dwarfs; and asks if they are eligible for the Chapter degrees, and if their petition should be entertained.

"To which I reply as follows :— 'There is no law of the Grand Chapter, of which I am aware, prescribing the physical size that shall render a Master Mason eligible to receive the Chapter degrees. Even the lodge requirement is only that the candidate shall have all the faculties of a man entire. We can not proscribe a brother because he may be under or above the average man in size. The candidates, if otherwise worthy, should receive the degrees when properly elected.'"

The resolution of the previous year, as to dependent membership, was modified to read as follows :—

"*Resolved*, That membership in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons shall be dependent upon and coexistent with membership in a lodge of Master Masons. Provided, however, that a Master Mason may remain unaffiliated after withdrawal from a lodge for a period of six months without affecting his membership in the Chapter to which he belongs; and provided, further, that a dimitted Master Mason, who has in good faith petitioned for membership in a lodge and has been rejected therein, shall not forfeit his membership in the Chapter to which he belongs until after the expiration of six months from such rejection by the lodge; and any such dimitted Master Mason who has been rejected, must renew his application to a lodge within six months after each such previous rejection in order to retain his membership in his Chapter."

Comp. Leander Burdick, the President of the proposed Masonic Home, presented a full report of the progress made. The total cash receipts have been \$36,860.16, and the unpaid subscriptions are \$47,192.50.

"The generous gift of the citizens of Springfield, of 154 acres in the immediate outskirts of that thriving and progressive centre of industry, at a cost of over \$20,000, will day by day become more valuable, as the city grows out towards it. On this beautiful tract we shall, on the 19th day of October, assemble to lay the corner-stone of our main or administration building. The building will cost, when completed and furnished, something over \$100,000, and will be able to accommodate about 200 inmates. As additional rooms are needed, cottages of various sizes will be built up in proximity to the main building, until every Mason, his wife, widow, or children, who shall need our care and the comforts of a Home, shall be able to find it under the auspices of our Order.

"But, although much has been accomplished by the persistent work of the Trustees and the solicitor whom they have employed, much yet remains to do.

"We have need of funds to carry on our Home when we shall have completed it, and should provide, year by year, for an endowment that shall produce a revenue to meet expenses."

The Grand Chapter of Victoria was recognized.

Comp. S. Stacker Williams has a capital report on correspondence of 155 pages. It is well written, and shows a thorough and exhaustive examination of the proceedings reviewed. Canada, for 1892, receives kindly mention.

William W. Savage, (Wilmington), G.H.P.

Charles C. Kiefer, (Urbana), G.S.

OREGON.

32nd Convocation, Portland, June 13th, 1892.

Jay Tuttle, G.H.P.

Our representative, Comp. Donald McKay, P.G.H.P., was duly in attendance. We can personally testify to the due performance of his duties, as we are indebted to him for many kindnesses and fraternal attentions during our visit to Portland last fall. If any of our companions find themselves in Oregon, be sure and let him know. You will find that Comp. McKay has a very warm heart towards Canadians.

Peace and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction. Two new Chapters were formed. Not a single request was presented for a special dispensation.

They have sustained a severe loss in the death of their Grand Secretary, Rocky P. Earhart, P.G.H.P. and P.G.M. He was for a number of years the most prominent figure in all their labors, and was universally esteemed and beloved.

For two years in succession this Grand Chapter has had no need for the services of a grievance committee.

The following were adopted :—

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter be and is hereby authorized to receive custody of the shares of stock of the Masonic Building Association owned by this Grand Chapter, vote the same at the meetings of said association, and operate the said stock in the interest of the Grand Chapter." * * *

"*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed by the Grand High Priest to draft a suitable law governing the making and standing of honorary members in Subordinate Chapters, and report at this session." * * *

"Your Committee, to whom was referred the subject of honorary membership in Subordinate Royal Arch Chapters in this jurisdiction, having considered the matter, beg leave to recommend the following resolutions :—

"*Resolved*, That all companions in good standing in this Grand Jurisdiction, who have been contributing members to any Subordinate Royal Arch Chapters therein for twenty years or more, may, at the option of the particular Chapter of which they are then members, be relieved from all Chapter dues, and that this Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Masons relieve the Subordinate Chapters from the payment of Grand Chapter dues on such members. *Provided*, that this resolution shall not affect companions who have heretofore been declared honorary members of Chapters, and also have been relieved from the payment of Grand Chapter dues.

Resolved, That complimentary honorary members shall be so designated by this title, and shall not be mentioned in the alphabetical list of members, or in the recapitulation of members, but shall be set apart by themselves in the report of the Subordinate Chapters, and upon whom no Subordinate Chapter or Grand Chapter dues shall be paid."

The report on correspondence is by Comp. T. McF. Patton. Canada for 1891 is kindly mentioned. In his notice of North Carolina he says :—

"Now if our M. E. Companion had advised the adoption of the ritual adopted by the General Grand Chapter at its last triennial convocation, he would have made a record ;

but he refrains from making any suggestion. The ritual now followed by the General Grand Chapter was prepared by Past Grand High Priest Wilbur F. Foster, the best ritualist in the United States, without exception, in our humble judgment, a pleasant, courteous gentleman, who for years has been chairman of this important committee of the General Grand Chapter."

Under the head of "Texas," Comp. Patton vigorously assails the practice of making secret objections to a candidate after he has been accepted by a favorable ballot:—

"We have always regarded this objection feature of modern origin—never known by the fathers of Masonry. A secret objection, after a clear ballot, is a villainous and cowardly act, unless the objector is willing to submit his objection to investigation, and the companion or brother objected to given opportunity to defend his good name; then it becomes a legitimate act, and one that would be commendable. 'Do unto others as ye would that they should do unto you,' is the golden rule which we should observe in Masonry as well as in other departments of life."

George E. Chamberlain, (Albany), G.H.P.

James F. Robinson, (Eugene), G.S.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Annual Convocation, Philadelphia, Dec. 28th, 1891.

Alexander H. Morgan, G.H.P.

A letter was received from Comp. William J. Hughan, who is their Representative near the Grand Mark Lodge of England. He says that the Grand Mark Lodge has 430 subordinates on its roll. He also says:—

"We have now one of the finest Masonic buildings in England, as the home or headquarters of the degree, viz., 'Mark Masons' Hall,' Great Queen street, London, adjoining the Freemasons' Hall, of the Grand Lodge of England (Craft), which is owned by that body.

"Our Grand Secretary's and the Secretarial offices are there, and many Lodges, Chapters, etc., also assemble in the building,

"The R. W. Bro. C. F. Matier (P.G.W.) is the present Grand Secretary, and is a most efficient officer, ritualist and exponent of the ceremonies of Mark Masonry and the 'allied degrees.'

"In evidence of the intimate union subsisting between the Craft, Arch, Mark, Temple and Ancient and Accepted Rite, I may mention that H. R. H. the Prince of Wales is the Grand Master of the Craft, Mark and Temple, Grand First Principal of the Arch and Grand Patron of the A. and A. Rite, and the present *Pro-Grand Master* of England (equivalent to the G. M.), is a Past Grand Viceroy of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine.

"Since the appointment of the zealous Grand Secretary, Colonel Shadwell H. Clerke, who is officially the Grand Scribe E., the Royal Arch degree has considerably increased in prosperity, and the lowering of the *minimum* fee for exaltation from three to two guineas (\$15.75 to \$10.50) has worked most beneficially. As you are aware, the R. A. is recognized by the Grand Lodge of England as the completion of the Third Degree, and hence it is felt that there should be no financial barrier to the ceremony being generally conferred on eligible Master Masons.

"In Scotland it is not officially recognized, *but the Mark is*, and in Ireland these two and the K. T. and A. and A. Rite are all part of one great and exclusive system (as well as *inclusive*) adopted by the Grand Lodge.

"In England there are now 627 R. A. Chapters, 153 being in London or Metropolitan district, and 474 in the Provinces, or the 'Country,' as it is called. There are 116 abroad, making a grand total of 743, being a net increase of 17 on the former year. *Each Chapter must be under the wing of a Craft Lodge on the English Register.*"

The Grand High Priest opened two new Chapters. He made a number of official visits. On one occasion, he delivered an address on "The Word and Emblems of the Royal Arch Degree." He condemns the custom of depending on a Past High Priest to do the work of confirming degrees. Their 115 Chapters are generally prosperous and no contentions exist between them.

The Constitution was amended as to Life and Honorary membership. Life membership may be conferred on payment of \$25, or if a member has paid dues for twenty years, for \$15. Honorary membership does not carry with it any of the privileges of active membership.

The report on Correspondence (150 pages), is by Comp. Stockton Bates. Canada for 1891 receives special mention. He says that the results in Pennsylvania of their life-membership system have been eminently satisfactory.

Alexander H. Morgan, (Philadelphia), G.H.P.

Charles E. Meyer, (Philadelphia), G.S.

QUEBEC.

15th Convocation, Montreal, January 26th, 1892.

David Seath, G.Z.

Their membership is about the same as in the previous year. Harmony prevails and Comp. Seath was not called on for any official decisions. He visited several Chapters and was well satisfied with their work.

It was decided to furnish all sister Grand Chapters with copies of the History of Freemasonry in the Province of Quebec, a most valuable and interesting work, by M. E. Comp. John H. Graham, P.G.Z., &c. We can heartily recommend this History to all our Companions. The well-known great ability of the author is a sufficient guarantee of its quality, and the time and labor expended on its preparation can hardly be sufficiently compensated.

Montana was recognized.

In the introduction of his excellent report on Correspondence, Comp. E. D. T. Chambers says, that the Capitular Rite is that particular part of the series that in the proper construction of the Masonic edifice ranks next to the foundation laid by Speculative Masonry. He then follows up this thought with some home truths that are not often thought of or expressed, but which should be more frequently and forcibly brought to the attention of all brethren:—

“Many of those that ignore this fact, practically deny that the Capitular Rite is any part of the series familiar to us as the American system of Masonic progression. If they can succeed in once convincing the newly raised Master Mason, as many of them undoubtedly do, that he can proceed directly from the third degree of the Ancient York Rite to the fourth degree of another rite, and thence away in the course of a single evening to a title-lover's paradise where he may sit down and write an additional half score of degrees after his name, it is easy to carry him onward in the same course by telling him that Capitular Masonry adds nothing to the figures representing the number of thirty-third parts that he is authorized to append to his Masonic signature. And so in his love for what he has been taught to believe is genuine Freemasonry, and in his search after Truth and the Lost Word, he has been jumped over the broken ground and the unfinished foundations of the Most Holy place, where investigation would have revealed to him the genuine secrets of which he has need, and is carried away up towards the pinnacle of a temple whose foundations are incomplete, and which lacks the corner-stone that is the key and cement of the entire superstructure. If his sponsors in his meteoric Masonic flight have not themselves learned the genuine secrets of the Master's degree in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, he is simply being led by blind guides. If his conductors have themselves discovered these truths and the lost word, they are acting as false guides to him whom they encourage to deviate from the highway and to seek the Truth by bypaths. To all such Companions, and we know that there are many of them, we would say: ‘Remember your own obligations to Capitular Masonry and carry your work plumb!’ To those who have in ignorance jumped what was always an essential feature of Ancient Freemasonry, we would say that it is not yet too late to supply the omission, and to strengthen their Masonic superstructure. But in the very nature of things they cannot hear us.”

"These reports are not intended for them. Nor will anything that we can say here reach and influence the Master Mason eager to advance in Masonry, and hesitating whether to continue in the straight way in which the Fathers walked, or to follow the error, which beckons him to step aside, promising him immediate titles and fame by a short cut if he do but take the alluring byway. Such as he might be reached by channels known to our Grand Lodges. In most jurisdictions there is the closest affinity between the Grand Lodge and the Grand Chapter.

"The Royal Arch degree was formerly controlled by the Masonry that is to-day that of the Grand Lodge. It is now the completion of the other's esoteric work. Why should this other manifest no further interest in the progress of its votaries, or in the completion of its own work? We would like to go further. But we forbear. We feel that we are upon delicate ground, and simply content ourselves for the present with giving expression to certain vague ideas which have suggested themselves to us, without formulating upon them any practical suggestions for Grand Chapter representation in favor of the exercise of friendly Grand Lodge influence.

"We should not have gone thus far, but for our devotion to this most beautiful and most instructive branch of our Masonic system, and our desire to see removed some of the influences that improperly militate against it, but not more so than against the true interests of the Master Mason aspiring for further light in Freemasonry.

"Perhaps we should add, for the purpose of avoiding possible misconception, that nothing that we have herein written is intended to dissuade any of our Royal Arch Companions from prosecuting their researches in other departments of Freemasonry as we have prosecuted ours."

Canada for 1891 is well noticed.

Albert D. Nelson, (Montreal), G. Z.

Joseph Mitchell, (Montreal), G. S.

We have just learned that the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Quebec for 1893 were unfortunately destroyed by fire in their printing office.

Comp. Edwin R. Johnson was elected Grand Z., but through illness he was not able to be installed, and, sad to relate, he died on the 29th of April last. His predecessor, Comp. A. D. Nelson, thereupon resumed the office of Grand Z., and as he had been elected to the office of Grand Treasurer, he appointed Comp. David Seath to act in that capacity.

We are also very much pained and grieved to learn of the sudden death of our friend Comp. J. Fred. Walker, P. G. M. and Grand J., which occurred on the 21st May last. We extend to our Companions in Quebec our heartfelt sympathy in their double bereavement.

RHODE ISLAND.

94th Convocation, Providence, March 8th, 1892.

George H. Kenyon, G. H. P.

A good degree of success and prosperity has attended the Chap'ers. The death is recorded of one of their most prominent members, P. G. H. P. Nicholas Van Slyck, who was always actively engaged in promoting the interests of Freemasonry and who had attained a wide reputation by reason of his ability and zeal.

The most important feature of the proceedings is thus related:—

"Upon invitation of the Grand High Priest, M. E. George L. McCahan, Deputy General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, addresses the Grand Chapter, stating that he bears the fraternal greeting of that Grand Body, of which we were formerly a constituent, and in a most kind and fraternal manner urges this Grand Chapter to renew its connection with the General Grand Chapter.

"M. E. John M. Carter, also representing the General Grand Chapter, follows with a most eloquent and fervent address, in which he most feelingly alludes to the great loss this Grand Chapter has sustained in the death of P. M. E. Nicholas Van Slyck, and also urging a renewal of our former relations.

"On motion it is

"Voted, That the thanks of Grand Chapter be extended to M. E. Companions McCahan and Carter for their very interesting and able addresses.

"M. E. Samuel G. Stiness presents the following report:

"To the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Rhode Island :

"Your Committee to whom, at the Annual convocation of 1890, was referred the communication from the M. E. General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, inviting this Chapter to become a constituent or subordinate of that M. E. Grand Body, respectfully report : That soon after its reference the matter was to some extent considered by the Committee, though but little time was then given to it. The near approach of this Convocation however, and the suggestion by the Grand Secretary that a report would be expected, directed the attention of the Committee again to the subject. The Committee was to have met on Saturday, the 5th inst. The sudden illness and subsequent death of the Chairman has, of course, prevented any action or consultation of the Committee, and they ask further time. They also respectfully request that another member be added to the Committee.

"Fraternally submitted,

SAMUEL G. STINESS, }
GEORGE H. BURNHAM, } *Committee.*

"On motion it is

"*Voted*, That the report be received, and the Committee increased to five members, one of whom shall be the Grand High Priest.

"The M. E. appoints as the remaining members of the Committee, M. E. Past Grand High Priests Field and Rugg."

George H. Kenyon, (Providence), G.H.P.

William R. Greene, (Providence), G.S.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

81st Convocation, Charleston, February 9th, 1893.

W. H. Witherow, G.H.P.

The amount of work done compares favorably with that of former years. In concluding his address Comp. Witherow says:—

"During many years of service as High Priest of Subordinate Chapters, I have greatly felt the need of a uniform system of catechetical instruction in the various degrees. Our ritual demands 'suitable proficiency' in the preceding degrees before advancement to higher. It is difficult to maintain interest in our work without an intelligent comprehension of the sublime teachings of our interesting symbols. Experience proves that the 'brighter' a Mason is, the deeper interest he takes in upholding and diffusing these grand principles. Many of our sister Grand Chapters devote much time and labor to perfecting and disseminating their lectures; and I firmly believe that much of their prosperity is due to this fact. I beg to commend this subject to your earnest consideration."

In this jurisdiction any companion is eligible to the office of High Priest without previous service as King or Scribe.

The hope is expressed that they may soon be able to resume the reports on correspondence.

The Grand Chapters of Montana and Indian Territory were recognized.

W. H. Witherow, (Winnsboro'), G.H.P.

J. E. Burke, (Charleston), G.S.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

3rd Convocation, Sioux Falls, June 16th, 1892.

William J. McMakin, G.H.P.

On the condition of the Craft he says:—

"No applications have been made for dispensations to form new Chapters during the past year, and our increase in membership but very little greater than that of the previous year; yet I see no reason to repine at the result or feel discouraged over the outlook, for it is not in the increase of numbers that we must look for the prosperity of our Order, but to the material of which it is composed.

"The lives of the members of our Fraternity are as closely watched and sharply criticized as those of the members of our Christian churches, and none should be admitted into the Sanctuary of our Tabernacles who are not upright, honest men, and have proved themselves to be such in their daily walk and conversation.

"In his annual address, our Past Grand High Priest Park Davis gave us a beautiful portrayal of the legend of our sublime and Royal Art, and hoped that no member would be disposed during the ceremonies of exaltation of engaging in frivolity and fun, or practicing any indignities. We would suppose that after reading it, no one would feel disposed to continue such practices; but I am creditably informed that it is still continued in some of our Chapters. It would seem that some members of Chapters are incapable of understanding the sublimity of this degree, and seldom attend the meetings of their Chapters except when occasion offers an opportunity of indulging in their favorite pastime.

"I hope this Grand Chapter can conceive and take measures to stamp out this unhallowed practice."

Responses from nineteen chapters show that 440 members had recorded their marks, and 630 had not.

R. E. Comp. A. E. Cooper was appointed as their representative near Canada.

Arizona and Montana were recognized.

The following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That the particular Chapters in this jurisdiction be required to make with their next annual report a separate type-written or printed list of membership, alphabetically arranged, the first names of each to be given in full."

Comp. George A. Pettigrew reports on correspondence, and gives our Proceedings of 1891 a good notice.

Edward B. Bracy, (Mitchell), G.H.P.

George A Pettigrew, (Flandreau), G.S.

TENNESSEE.

64th Convocation, Nashville, January 23rd, 1893.

John B. Garrett, G.H.P.

He complains of the apathy and indifference of many of the Companions, but, notwithstanding all difficulties, the returns show an increase in membership. Their Widows' and Orphans' Home is about completed, and is now partly occupied.

The Grand Chapter donated \$300 to the Home.

For the first time in many years they find themselves able to publish a report on correspondence. They have been successful in securing the services of Comp. George C. Connor, whose ability and knowledge have already secured for him a wide and favorable reputation. This report is one of the best of the year. Our proceedings for 1892 receive kindly mention. In his concluding remarks, he has the following on the "Route of the Captives":—

"Nebuzaradan led away the captives from Jerusalem to his master, Nebuchadnezzar, who lay encamped at the ancient city of Riblah. They took the road that ran by Lake Gennesaret, water being an all important necessity of the melancholy journey, and continued northward to the exquisitely beautiful valley of the Leontes, a valley over one hundred miles long and only eight miles wide at the broadest place. It was a valley almost literally flowing with milk and honey.

"But there never was constructed a decent highway in Palestine until the Romans built their great road from Jerusalem, crossing the Jordan near Jerico, and continuing almost in sight of the desert to Damascus. Hence the poor captives toiled on with bleeding feet, their animals suffering from the bad roads, and the strong men scarcely able to endure their mortification and their sufferings. Not until the valley of the Leontes was reached was there the slightest rift in the cloud of their despair. Anti-Lebanon Mountains stretched out to join Mount Hermon on the right, and the tall, stately Mountains of Lebanon bounded the valley on the left. The Leontes flowed down this valley, spreading fertility and beauty all the way. The most desperate despair, however, can not resist the beauties of the Creator's handiwork, and sorrow was for a moment partially laid aside.

"The first glow of pleasure past, the weary captives lifted their eyes to the tall summits of Lebanon to recall that the cedars of their beloved Temple came from these mountains, the gift of the monarch whose country lay beyond and along the great sea they

might never behold again. And then they remembered Zion, and the ruins of the house of the Lord. Onward they plodded, driven by the lash of the conqueror, their lacerated feet, keen distress, and deep mortification affording the soldiers of Nebuzaradan the most exquisite pleasure. At last Baalbec was reached, the great city of the sun, builded upon rising ground, and watered with innumerable springs and fountains. It is probable the captives were rested there for recuperation, as not less than thirty days must have passed since they descended from the table land of Jerusalem.

"Leaving Baalbec (Greek, *Heliopolis*) they journeyed due north to Riblah, where they arrived after a toilsome march, for the roads, wretched at best, had been badly cut up by the several armies that had moved along them. At Riblah they found the Chaldean king. That city had been the headquarters of the Babylonian kings in their attacks upon Palestine and Tyre, and here Nebuchadnezzar awaited the success of the attack upon Jerusalem. It was not a remarkable city outside of these associations. It stood on the east bank of the Orontes, that famous river which flowed by Antioch to the sea.

"Some have expressed the opinion that the captives were returned to Damascus, and that they crossed the desert to the Euphrates as a special punishment. Other enthusiasts seem to believe that the captors had chains forged with triangular links to manacle the captives, as a special indignity. There is no authority whatever for either story. Nor is it known that Nebuchadnezzar had any desire to specially humiliate his captives. His ambition was to make Babylon the capital of the East, and thither he carried the captives that he made in all nations. That he used the Jews reasonably well is demonstrated by his allowing them to have their own elders, and to be governed by their own rulers.

"The captives again took up their weary tramp, travelling northwestward to Tadmor (Palmyra), passing through a narrow neck of the Arabian Desert. They found Tadmor in the centre of a fertile, well-watered oasis, covered with palms, which suggested the name of the city, 'The City of Palm Trees.' There they halted to refresh themselves, and secure supplies of food and water. They were now at a point half way between the Orontes and the Euphrates, and the principal depot between the Mediterranean coast and the interior of the continent of Asia. And Tadmor formed a glorious picture in that boundless desert. The numerous columns of white marble rising out of the green oasis contrasted strongly with the low, level waste of sand.

"The next halt was on the banks of the Euphrates, after another thirsty march through the ocean of sand. The river was crossed, and the journey continued down through Babylonia, on the eastern side of the river. They passed Aneth, Cunazza, and finally sat down in the far-famed valley, in the middle of which arose Babylon, the wonder of the world.

"Babylon (Shinar) was then in the zenith of its glory, and was the metropolis of the East. Nebuchadnezzar had made it the wonderful place that it was. He had finished the Temple of Belus, which stood on the supposed site of the Tower of Babel; had builded the enormous structure on which he planted the garden that gave rise to the legend of 'hanging gardens,' and erected several enormous palaces. The city was inclosed by double walls, averaging two hundred and fifty feet high, and the Euphrates flowed diagonally through it, in the general direction of north and south. In this valley the captives found many of their own people, carried there by previous invasions of Palestine. And, during fifty-two years, they tilled the rich soil, so well watered by the Euphrates and the Tigris (it is probable the Euphrates did not run into the Tigris at that period), continued the buildings within the walls, and built neighboring cities and temples. They were slaves, but governed by their own judges, elders and rulers."

John T. Williamson, (Columbia), G.H.P.
W. A. Clendening, (Nashville), G.S.

TEXAS.

43rd Convocation, Houston, Dec. 6th, 1892.

John McDonald, G.H.P.

He recommends the Grand Chapter to renew its allegiance to the General Grand Chapter. Two new Chapters were formed during the year. Their finances need attention, as the expenses of late years exceed the receipts, owing to the delegate system, and the Grand High Priest recommends that in future the Subordinate Chapters be required to pay the entire expenses of delegates in attendance upon the Committee on Work.

On this subject the following resolution of the Committee on Finance was adopted :—

"*Resolved*, That Article X, Section 2, on page 9 of the Constitution and Digest of Resolutions of the Grand Chapter of Texas relating to the Committee on Work and the delegates who attend the sessions of said committee, be amended as follows: In the ninth line of said resolution after the words 'at the rate of,' strike out ten (\$10.00) dollars per day, and insert seven and a half (\$7.50) dollars per day. And on page ten of same resolution after the words 'or other conveyances' strike out the words 'both ways and \$1.50 per day,' and insert one way and 75 cents per day."

Comps. Reuben C. Lemon of Ohio, and Frederic Speed of Mississippi were present as Delegates from the General Grand Chapter to urge the Grand Chapter to again fraternize with the General Body. Eloquent addresses were delivered by other Comps. and the subject was referred to a special Committee of six members. A long majority report by four of the Committee recommended that the resolution of severance be rescinded. A longer minority report by the other two members declines to acknowledge allegiance to the General Grand Chapter. After some discussion it was moved to lay both reports on the table, which by a vote of chapters and members was carried.

Comp. J. C. Kidd having been compelled to stop some of his work owing to illness, the report on correspondence is presented by the junior member of the Committee, Comp. George Lucas, jr., of whom it may be said he appears to thoroughly understand the requirements of a reporter and to be well able to fulfil them.

Our proceedings of 1892 receive a cordial notice, but he comments on the absence of their representative, Comp. Richard Brierly, from our meetings.

S. J. Morriss, (Atlanta), G.H.P.

Robert Brewster, (Houston), G.S.

VERMONT.

75th Convocation, Burlington, June 17th, 1892.

George W. Wing, G.H.P.

The dread messenger of death has invaded nearly every Chapter in the State, 48 of their companions having gone to their reward.

On the subject of the too frequent re-appointment of Grand Representatives, Comp. Wing has the following remarks. It certainly does seem to be an unnecessary expenditure of time and money to make all these appointments every three years, but on the other hand there does not appear to be any other decent way of getting rid of a representative who persistently neglects attendance on the meetings of the Grand Chapter to whom he is accredited:—

"During the year I have issued commissions to all the Representatives of this Grand Chapter near other Grand Chapters, in all to the number of fifty-five. The same thing was done by my predecessor two years ago, and will have to be done again in three years. In nearly if not every case, where the party was living and within the jurisdiction, he was again recommended for appointment and recommissioned. This duty under our present regulations involves a great amount of labor and no inconsiderable expense. I commend it to your consideration as to whether it would not be advisable to make some change in the present regulations, either by repeal or by a modification that would limit the term to five or ten years."

On the same subject the following report was adopted:—

"While we are aware that potent reasons can be urged in support of the Grand High Priest's suggestion that the term of Grand Representatives be extended, there are also many arguments in favor of our present regulation, and inasmuch as the commissions do not expire for two years, we recommend that further time be given to the consideration of this subject."

Montana was recognized.

The resolution of 1888 restricting the number of pages of the correspondence report was repealed, so that Comp. Marsh O. Perkins will have full scope next year. Canada for 1891 is noticed.

George W. Wing, (Montpelier), G.H.P.

Warren G. Reynolds, (Burlington), G.S.

VIRGINIA.

85th Convocation, Richmond, October 11th, 1892.

George W. Wright, G.H.P.

On their Masonic Home he says :—

“ ‘Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this: To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction,’ and it must be a source of great gratitude to us all that our Masonic Home has received such attention and such increased aid during the past year. The Ladies’ Auxiliary Societies, the Blue Lodges, Chapters and Commanderies, have taken renewed interest, and those connected with the Institution should take courage and rest not until Virginia shall have a Home for the fatherless and widows second to none in the country. The desire to maintain a Home is received with more favor every year. Our Temple has about been completed; and now, Companions, let us turn our attention to the maintenance of such a Home as shall be a living monument to the intelligent, humane and noble-hearted Companions within our fold. Our Home is well conducted, has done much good, is well officered and mannered, and should receive the hearty support of every Companion.

“Companions, it is one of the noblest works in which a man can engage, and let us carry out in our practice the teaching of our Mark Masters Degree, that this Home should be so endowed and so enlarged as shall make it an honor and joy and pride to every true member of our Brotherhood.”

The work of the Grand Lecturer and his assistant for the past year was very encouraging. They were met with a zeal and interest not usual in previous years. Four new Chapters were formed.

Comp. George C. McCahan, of Maryland, Delegate from the General Grand Chapter, addressed the Grand Chapter with an appeal to join the General Body, but the committee on that subject were unanimously against the project, and their report, as under, was adopted :—

“Your committee have carefully considered the invitation of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the U.S.A., and have had the pleasure of a special conference with the distinguished representatives of that Grand Body, and, while we fully appreciate their appeal, yet we unanimously agree that it is inexpedient for the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Virginia to become a constituent member of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States of America.”

William L. Jeffries, (Culpeper), G.H.P.

William B. Isaacs, (Richmond), G.S.

WASHINGTON.

8th Convocation, Spokane, June 17th, 1892.

Jacob H. Bellinger, G.H.P.

One of their brightest lights has been removed by the death of P.G. H.P. Andrew McCalley.

A dispensation was issued for a new Chapter at Puyallup. On the condition of the Fraternity, Comp. Bellinger says :—

“The growth of this Grand Body, or the increase in new Chapters, has not been as large during the twelve months which have just rolled ’round as it would please me to report; perhaps, not commensurate with the growth and development of our great commonwealth, yet I cannot but feel that Capitular Masonry is in strictly a healthy and prosperous condition, and that we have the foundations well laid, of good and selected material, for a Temple that will rival any yet erected by our Companions farther towards the Orient.”

The correspondence of the Grand Secretary was very much increased by the necessity of issuing new commissions to all their Grand Representatives.

The following resolution was carried :—

“Resolved, That Past High Priests of sister Grand Jurisdictions, being members of subordinate Chapters of this Jurisdiction, may be elected members of this Grand Chapter, with privileges of Past High Priests of this Jurisdiction.”

The following report of the Committee on Dissemination of the work was adopted, and the sum of \$300 was set aside for the expenses :—

“That, as the Chapters are already supplied with the work adopted by this Grand Jurisdiction, and the M. E. Grand High Priest being the custodian of the work, we deem it inadvisable to employ a Grand Lecturer, but would recommend instead that the M. E. Grand High Priest be requested to visit the several subordinate Chapters at least once during the year at his convenience, and we would further recommend that an appropriation be made by the Finance Committee to defray his expenses.”

The Grand Secretary reports on correspondence. Canada, for 1891, appears.

William McMicken, (Olympia), G. H. P.

Yancey C. Blalock, (Walla Walla), G. S.

WEST VIRGINIA.

22nd Convocation, Charleston, November 14th, 1892.

Braxton W. Gibson, G. H. P.

The Grand High Priest congratulates the Grand Chapter on the peace and harmony prevailing throughout the jurisdiction. He is glad to announce the fair increase and advancement of the interests of Capitular Masonry in the Subordinate Chapters, where there seems to be a growing appreciation of the true influences and effectiveness of work among the Craftsmen. His duties were limited to matters of a routine nature, except the specially important event of the admission of their Grand Chapter into the General Grand Chapter of the United States, on which he has the following remarks :—

“Pursuant to the special direction contained in the resolution of this Grand Chapter of date the 9th day of November, 1891, your committee, consisting of this Grand Council and Past Grand High Priests K. D. Walker and O. S. Long, have formally effected the admission of this Grand Chapter as a constituent member of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the United States of America, and, under date of the 11th day of May, 1892, our Proclamation was issued accordingly.

“The establishment of such harmonious and fraternal relations between this Grand Chapter and the General Grand Chapter will tend to increase and widen the sphere of our fraternal spirit, and would seem to bespeak for us a more honored intercourse with our beloved Sister Grand Chapters, in the much desired union of the bonds of the Royal Craft under the now nearly complete General Grand Arch of Companionship.

“I think we cannot but felicitate ourselves upon this auspicious event in the history of our Grand Chapter, and we can well wish that the centennial year of the General Grand Chapter, 1897, may find all the State Grand Chapters in a united chain of one common Capitular Communion.

“The most fraternal and cordial greetings and recognition were extended to our Grand Chapter and the Royal Craft in this Grand Jurisdiction by M. E. General Grand High Priest Joseph P. Hornor, who assured us that no radical changes would be necessary in our ritual and organization.”

Through the untiring exertions of the Grand Secretary, they have now a reprint of the Proceedings from the organization of the Grand Chapter in 1871 to the present time, with a compilation of all laws, decisions and edicts, embraced in one volume.

On the subject of ritual the following Proceedings were had :—

“The special Committee on Revision of Ritual, reported as follows, in so far as the said report can be committed to writing for publication :—

“To the M. E. Grand Chapter :—

“The committee appointed by resolution adopted one year ago to ‘consider what revision, if any, is needed in the unwritten work of the Royal Arch Chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction,’ fraternally submits the following report :—

"We have given to the important work assigned to us a great deal of patient and painstaking labor. In the course of oral transmission from one to another through a long series of years, numerous changes insensibly and inevitably occur. Words of similar meaning are substituted for the words originally received; words of similar sound but of different meaning sometimes creep gradually in; omissions due to forgetfulness are of frequent occurrence; and interpolations due to a zealous and lively imagination are not seldom found.

"Two of the members of this committee learned the work thoroughly from R. E. James Evans, Grand Lecturer, of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Virginia, twenty five years ago. The other member of the committee, the Grand Lecturer of this Grand Chapter, has retained and taught the work as he received it in this Grand Jurisdiction about eight years ago. A careful comparison of recollection showed very clearly that the present work has in many respects, some of which are trivial and some of which are important, departed from that which was received as the authorized work of the Grand Chapter of Virginia, a quarter of a century since.

"We have had opportunity of carefully comparing the Virginia and West Virginia work with that of our neighboring Grand Chapters of Ohio and Kentucky and with that authorized by the General Grand Chapter for use by its subordinates. The comparison shows that all of these rituals have had a common origin; that all started with what is historically known as 'the Webb work.' There has been no change in essentials; no important change in the legends; but each Grand Chapter tells the same story in a different way; uses different language and sometimes different ceremonies to impart the same idea. The changes are continually proceeding and each year's instruction gets farther and farther from the starting point.

"In order to plant and anchor and make a fixed point in so far as the Royal Arch ritual in West Virginia is concerned, the two senior members of the committee authorized and requested the Grand Lecturer to employ a Companion Royal Arch Mason to make, at his dictation, a complete type written copy of the work as now taught and practised. The copy was made and has been very carefully scrutinized, line by line and word by word, by the committee.

"As a result of this examination we recommend a number of changes which are in fact mere *restorations* of language and ceremonial. We have tried to bring the ritual mainly back to that of twenty-five years ago, but have not strictly done so, because we deemed it important to require of those who have learned the work as it is now taught as few changes as are possible, consistent with reasonable uniformity.

"The committee also recommends the introduction of some instruction not heretofore given in our Chapters nor forming any part of the ritual heretofore taught. These additions are such as are necessary to conform our teaching to that of the original 'Webb work' as preserved in some of our sister Grand Chapters, but which has been heretofore in some mysterious manner dropped out from the work taught in Virginia and here.

"We may remark in conclusion that the departure in the ritual now taught from that taught by the authorized custodians of the work twenty-five years ago are not greater than such as may be fully accounted for as the result of the causes already mentioned; causes which have operated as actively in the jurisdiction of our Mother Grand Chapter, as here; and the suggestion follows that the Royal Arch Mason who desires to learn what he has been told is 'the Virginia work,' can learn *here* what *was* the Virginia ritual a quarter of a century ago quite as well as it may be obtained elsewhere.

"We cannot conclude our report without acknowledgment of courteous and fraternal aid from distinguished Companions in our neighboring Grand Jurisdictions. As helps in our labor, we have been favored with copies in cipher of the ritual used in Ohio and Kentucky, and of that authorized to be used by the Chapters under the immediate jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. For that of Ohio, we hereby express our thanks to M. E. Comp. J. W. Iredell, of Cincinnati; for that of Kentucky we owe acknowledgment to Comps. J. W. Staton, P. G. H. P., and H. B. Grant, Gr. Secretary, and we are also indebted to Comp. F. H. Johnson, of Louisville, for valuable suggestion. The copy of the Ritual of the Gen. Gr. Chapter which was furnished the committee, came through the kindness of Comp. J. R. Purnell, who cannot now be benefited by our thanks, unless indeed the dead are pleased by the kind and grateful words spoken by the living.

"Fraternally submitted,

"O. S. LONG,
"K. D. WALKER,
"JAS. McCAHON,
"Committee.

"After the reading of the foregoing report, the esoteric portions of the ritual of all of the degrees conferred in the Royal Arch Chapter in West Virginia, were carefully and distinctly considered; there was debate as to some of the language in some of the degrees, and votes were had as to the form to be used, section after section was consid-

ered and discussed and adopted; and, after adoption section by section, the whole ritual, as presented by the committee, was unanimously adopted.

"It was then ordered that the complete ritual, as adopted, be carefully and accurately transcribed into a suitable book, to be securely kept in the office of the Grand Secretary, to be used as a criterion for the settlement of all questions as to the exact language of the work, and to correct the errors of imperfect memory. It was also ordered that the type-written copy prepared by order of the committee on ritual, with all the amendments adopted by the Grand Chapter, be committed to the custody of the Grand Lecturer, and carefully preserved by him until the further order of the Grand Chapter; and the thanks of the Grand Chapter were voted to the Committee for the care taken and labor bestowed and learning displayed in the preparation of their report."

John W. Morris, (Wheeling), G.H.P.

Odel S. Long, (Charleston), G.S.

WISCONSIN.

43rd Convocation, Milwaukee, Feb. 21st, 1893.

Charles V. Bardeen, G.H.P.

The reports indicate a prosperous and healthy growth and continued fidelity to our noble institution on the part of all their members.

By the provisions of the Constitution the Grand Lecturer is required to visit one-half of the Chapters in the State, alternating each year. Comp. Melvin L. Youngs performed his duties faithfully. In his report he says:—

"The attendance in nearly every Chapter, on the part of both officers and members, has been unusually good, and the interest manifested in the work, both as to accuracy in the Ritual and in the manner of applying it, has been correspondingly favorable.

"A better interest is apparent than at any time since the revision made in 1881 and done in accordance with the requirements of the Grand Chapter. For a time following that revision many of the old officers were loth to attempt to make the required changes. To drop the old, with which they were familiar, and learn the new, was to them a task from which they shrank, even with the means which had been furnished them by the Grand Chapter. The change has of necessity been slow, but with new and younger officers succeeding those who were then in charge, all have adapted themselves to the work and are able to conform with a fair degree of accuracy to the Ritual. Still at every visitation I find more or less error in the language which materially changes the meaning intended to be conveyed, even sometimes rendering it without any sense or application. This is easily accounted for by you who are familiar with the manner in which the work has been acquired. I have also found that more of the officers holding minor positions are becoming better skilled in their several parts than formerly and are taking more pride in the work, thus rendering the High Priest better support. There also seems to be a growing sentiment in our Chapters against the introduction of practices wholly unknown to the work, but nevertheless it has sometimes been done, thus 'sacrificing the solemnity of the ceremonies to ill-timed and misplaced amusement.'

"All this is now having a beneficial influence in most of our Chapters, both as to attendance and interest and the amount of work being done.

"In my visitations I have oftener exemplified the work of the different degrees with substitute than with actual candidates, and in all such cases the attendance has been equally good and more benefit has resulted therefrom."

The Grand High Priest having suggested the discontinuance of the report on Correspondence, the matter was referred to the General Committee, whose report as under was adopted:—

"Your General Committee, to whom was referred so much of the address of the G. H. P. as refers to shortening or discontinuing the report of the Committee on Correspondence, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report:

"We find that the Correspondence report for the year 1892 covered one hundred and eighteen (118) pages, at a cost of one dollar and sixty-five (\$1.65) per page, amounting to \$194.70, which, with fifty (50) dollars paid to the committee, makes a total of \$244.70, or four and four-fifths (4 $\frac{4}{5}$) cents, per capita, for the Royal Arch Masons of the State.

"We believe the reports from our committee will compare favorably with those received by any other Grand Jurisdiction.

"A well written report on Correspondence furnishes a valuable cyclopedia of the various rulings and decisions, with reasons therefor, upon almost all questions that arise in Capitular Jurisprudence in the many Grand Jurisdictions reviewed, they serving the same purpose to the officers of a Chapter as court reports to the legal fraternity.

"We believe it would be detrimental to the best interests of the Chapters, as well as to this Grand Body, to discontinue them, for, from our constituent Chapters, we get our officers who are to render decisions for this Grand Chapter.

"We therefore recommend that the committee be instructed to abridge its reports, whenever it can be done without impairing the substance, and that the reports be continued."

The bonds of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer are hereafter to be furnished by a Guarantee Company at the expense of the Grand Chapter.

Comp. William C. Swain submitted his tenth annual report on Correspondence (100 pages), and it is as usual written with great ability. The extracts show powers of rare discrimination and the comments are always to the purpose. Numerous extracts are given from our Proceedings of 1892.

Calvert Spensley, (Mineral Point), G. H. P.

John W. Lafin, (Milwaukee), G. S.

SUPPLEMENTARY.

FLORIDA.

46th Convocation, Jacksonville, May 10th, 1892.

Thomas S. Wilmarth, G.H.P.

We quote from the address as follows:—

"Forty-five years ago, this being the forty-sixth annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, the representation of three Chapters, situated in Tallahassee, St. Augustine and Apalachicola, met in the capital city and organized this body. A retrospective view of its history presents a panorama of its vicissitudes, its alternate flourishing cycles and its depressing decades, which strikingly depicts the fertile plains, beautiful highways, and the rough and rugged paths of human life.

"The poet said:

" 'Death rides on every passing breeze
And lurks in every flower.'

"And how applicable this to all earthly existence. Two of these original Chapters are long since dead, the one at Tallahassee only surviving. Along the line of this series of years, twenty-seven (27) additional Chapters have been organized, making thirty (30) in all under this Grand Jurisdiction, seventeen (17) of which have gone the way of all earthly objects, leaving us to-day but thirteen (13) working chartered Chapters. Shall we be discouraged? No. Our ancient Brethren and Companions, whose virtues we claim to emulate, were not daunted, even under the most appalling difficulties and dangers. When, after their deepest humility, with abiding faith and manly courage, they had passed their successive troubles and dangers, they redoubled their assiduity and pressed forward to glorious victory. Their noble example is left for our imitation. We have safely passed our most fearful and alarming decade, left it many years behind us, and are travelling along the beautiful paths of pleasantness to the most sanguine period of prosperity.

"Of our thirteen (13) interesting Chapters, six (6) are of comparatively recent origin. They, like children, growing into vigorous manhood, and are making reasonable progress,

and the older, so to speak, are growing young and more vigorous again, and instead of our little group of thirty (30) Companions, we now have hundreds of Royal Craftsmen on the way to rebuild the House of the Lord, whose splendor shall outshine its predecessor.

"Our tabernacles are erected in the 'Land of Flowers,' whose pure, balmy air, geographical situation, life-giving waters, fertile soil and inexhaustible sources of wealth learning must ere long place Florida the peer of any State in this grand American Union, and enviously attract to it the attention of the great commercial marts of the world."

A new Chapter was formed at Sanford.

The following report was adopted:—

"The Special Committee appointed last year to report a standard work of the several degrees of the Chapter, reported that the General Grand Chapter had adopted a Ritual, we therefore recommend that that Committee be discharged.

"We find that Companions W. A. McLean and D. C. Dawkins, who were appointed a Special Committee last year to prepare a printed Ritual for Installation ceremonies, performed that duty during the recess of the Grand Chapter, and we recommend that their report as printed be adopted and they discharged."

The Committee on Work was requested to prepare a Ritual for the opening and closing ceremonies of the Grand Chapter, and to present the same at the next session.

1893.

47th Convocation, Jacksonville, May 9th, 1893.

Irving E. Webster, G. H. P.

They have been called upon to mourn the loss of their most highly esteemed Grand Secretary Dewitt C. Dawkins, who was well known throughout the continent as an earnest and devoted member of the Craft. We tender our sincere sympathy:—

"Scarcely had the deliberations of the Grand Chapter of 1892 been brought to a close, when our M. E. Companion D. C. Dawkins, Grand Secretary of this body, was stricken with paralysis on May 16th, in which condition he lingered until Oct. 5th, 1892, when he entered the portals of the Supreme Grand Chapter above. No Companion in the Masonic history of this State was so well known as Companion Dawkins. Few Masons have received at the hands of their brothers a larger share of honor. Raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in 1850, his desire and longing for Masonic light led him on until we find him a Royal Arch Mason in 1854 and a Knight Templar. From the humblest position in a Lodge of Master Masons we trace his footsteps through all the offices, step by step, to the position of Grand High Priest. For many years he occupied the honorable position of Grand Secretary of the State, both in the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, and for twenty-three years the trusted position of Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence."

A new Chapter was formed at Plant City. There is a steady growth in the membership, and more interest is taken in the work.

The Ritual of the General Grand Chapter was duly adopted and a committee was appointed for its dissemination.

"The committee appointed two years ago on the status of Cryptic Masonry in this jurisdiction, having failed to make a report to the Grand Chapter, and there appearing to be no good reason why this Grand Chapter should investigate or inquire into the matter of Cryptic Masonry, on motion of Companion Boyd, the committee was discharged.

"The committee on Work being authorized and requested at the last annual Convocation to prepare a Ritual for opening and closing the ceremonies of the Grand Chapter, reported that they had discharged the duty assigned to them, and that they imparted the same to the Grand High Priest for the opening and closing ceremonies of the Grand Chapter. The report was received and adopted."

The death of Comp. Dawkins, upon whom they depended so much, has caused a hiatus in the reports on Correspondence, but we are promised a resumption next year.

Silas B. Wright, (DeLand), G. H. P.

William A. McLean, (Jacksonville), G. S.

PROCEEDINGS RECEIVED.

General Grand Chapter...	1891	Montana.....	1892
Alabama.....	1892	Nebraska.....	1892
Arizona.....	1892	Nevada.....	1892
Arkansas.....	1892	New Hampshire.....	1892
California.....	1892	New York.....	1893
Colorado.....	1892	North Carolina.....	1892
Delaware.....	1893	North Dakota.....	1892
District of Columbia.....	1892	Nova Scotia.....	1892
Florida.....	1892-93	Ohio.....	1892
Georgia.....	1892	Oregon.....	1892
Illinois.....	1892	Pennsylvania.....	1891
Indiana.....	1892	Quebec.....	1892
Indian Territory.....	1892	Rhode Island.....	1892
Kentucky.....	1892	South Carolina.....	1892
Louisiana.....	1893	South Dakota.....	1892
Maine.....	1892	Tennessee.....	1893
Maryland.....	1892	Texas.....	1892
Massachusetts.....	1892	Vermont.....	1892
Michigan.....	1893	Virginia.....	1892
Minnesota.....	1892	Washington.....	1892
Mississippi.....	1892	West Virginia.....	1892
Missouri.....	1892	Wisconsin.....	1893

Connecticut, Kansas, New Brunswick and New Jersey have not been received.

All which is fraternally submitted,

HENRY ROBERTSON,

Chairman.

Collingwood, Ontario, Canada,

June 12th, 1893.

SPCL HS 719 C2 A3 1893-9

